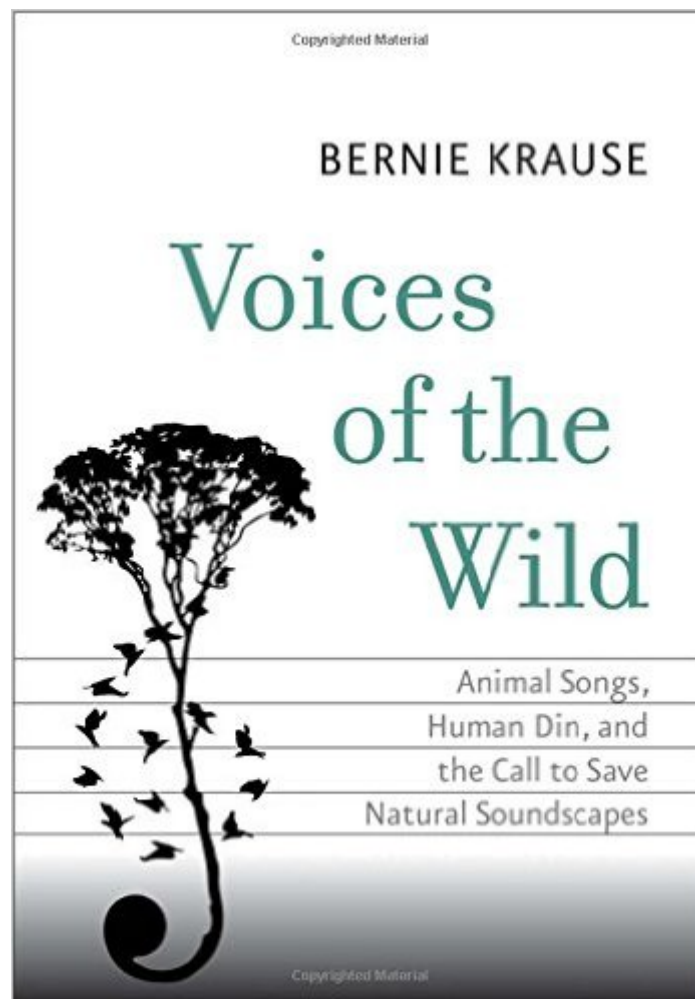


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Voices Of The Wild: Animal Songs, Human Din, And The Call To Save Natural Soundscapes (The Future Series)



Synopsis

A pioneer in the field of soundscape ecology explores the ways in which the voice of the natural world informs many subjects. Since 1968, Bernie Krause has traveled the world recording the sounds of remote landscapes, endangered habitats, and rare animal species. Through his organization, Wild Sanctuary, he has collected the soundscapes of more than 2,000 different habitat types, marine and terrestrial. With powerful illustrations and compelling stories, Krause provides a manifesto for the appreciation and protection of natural soundscapes. In his previous book, *The Great Animal Orchestra*, Krause drew readers' attention to what Jane Goodall described as "the harmonies of nature . . . [that are being] one by one by one, snuffed out by human actions." He now explains that the secrets hidden in the natural world's shrinking sonic environment must be preserved, not only for our scientific understanding, but for our cultural heritage and humanity's physical and spiritual welfare. Krause's narrative "supplemented by exclusive access to field recordings from the wild" draws on a compelling range of personal anecdotes, histories, and examples to document his early exploration of this field and to lay the groundwork for future generations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Fascinating and alarming study of the effect of human noise on animal song. It is depressing to be reminded so brilliantly by this eco-musicologist that humans are spoiling the world in this insidious

and all but ignored way--not only do humans take up every square inch of space but every decibel of sound wherever they are. Both in the air and under the water we spread our noise without any awareness of the negative impact that noise has on the animals we share these spaces with--esp boat/ship motor and other underwater auditory interference which has a dire effect on underwater fish and mammals since those sounds carry louder and farther than air-born noise. I've found as I've gotten older that my tolerance for unnecessary human noise--which really does constitute noise pollution in my opinion (loud people ceaselessly talking on their cell phones as if public is private space, loud people & uncontrolled mannerless children in social and other public situations, cars/buses/shipping/transport trucks, trains & planes, rap/rock music blasting from cars, the barrage of tv/radio in every public space,etc) has declined to the point where I feel virtually assaulted by it wherever I go. As the book points out in no uncertain terms with graphic sound charts, the birds and other creatures who share the planet with us can scarcely be heard anymore or more importantly hear each other. The latter truth is that their lack of song interferes with the animals ability to socialize, mate, and reproduce thus contributing even further to the monstrous toll of our physical pollution, destruction of habitat, and burgeoning human population displacing and threatening their continued existence. If we go on as we are, we will be alone on planet earth without other animal company. The poverty of that possibility is too terrible to contemplate. We don't have to be as noisy as we are--just a thought....

This book brings to light the potential for acoustics in the realm of ecology. An easy read for the layman, a hopeful discussion for environmentalists and field hobbyists alike.

Voices of the Wild by Bernie Krause is a free NetGalley ebook that I read in mid-July during a dull spot in stats class. Hopefully, this book will be able to transport me to a idyllic forest concert of fauna. It should be noted that this book is of the length and tone of a dry, academic thesis. The 'Voices of the Wild' title is inappropriately mystifying when the author wants to review information about new and vintage audio equipment, Latin genus names, and national parks.

I was so sad when I received it! I actually bought it because I thought it will have a CD or some kind of mp3 connected with it. Well...I have a similar book from long time ago - same author - with another cover, from the late 80s. So....I miss the actual audio. It's makes a whole difference to have the audio.

Nice item.

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