



Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk: A Modest Bestiary

By David Sedaris

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Featuring David Sedaris's unique blend of hilarity and heart, this new collection of keen-eyed animal-themed tales is an utter delight. Though the characters may not be human, the situations in these stories bear an uncanny resemblance to the insanity of everyday life.

In "The Toad, the Turtle, and the Duck," three strangers commiserate about animal bureaucracy while waiting in a complaint line. In "Hello Kitty," a cynical feline struggles to sit through his prison-mandated AA meetings. In "The Squirrel and the Chipmunk," a pair of star-crossed lovers is separated by prejudiced family members.

With original illustrations by Ian Falconer, author of the bestselling *Olivia* series of children's books, these stories are David Sedaris at his most observant, poignant, and surprising.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Like a modern-day Aesop or La Fontaine, Sedaris has his darkly comic and deeply cynical (if somewhat rambling) morality stories enacted by animals. Although Sedaris typically narrates his works solo, here he is joined by Dylan Baker, Siân Phillips, and (the incomparable) Elaine Stritch. The dry tones of both women are particularly well suited to the knowing commentary offered by various domesticated, barnyard, and wild animals on casual racism, self-congratulatory sanctimony, poor excuses for adultery, and fad spiritualism, among other common societal ills. The audiobook features a bonus fable not available in the text version of the book; in addition, the third CD includes PDFs of the book's illustrations by Ian Falconer (writer/illustrator of the Olivia picture book series). A Little, Brown hardcover. (Sept.)

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From Booklist

The ancient Greeks had Aesop, seventeenth-century French people read the fables of La Fontaine, and now we, jaded inhabitants of the modern era, possess the distinct privilege to enjoy the beloved Sedaris' first collection of short animal tales. The appeal of this aesthetically pleasing little volume is inherent, as the American ambassador of the comedy memoir, human division, turns now to creatures of the hooved and winged variety to make us laugh and, perhaps, learn a lesson. Illustrations by Falconer (of the Olivia children's books) are a perfect pairing for Sedaris' stories (both writer and illustrator have been published extensively in the *New Yorker*). In *Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk*, foibled fabular heroines are given the opportunity to, finally, display all those humanlike thoughts and behaviors they've been banned from for ages. There's the motherless bear who alienates herself with her incessant, self-centered solicitations of pity, and the potbellied pig who, no matter the diet, just can't lose his breed-inherited descriptor. It's impossible to imagine the brainstorm that conjured up these absurd, animated tales, but readers will certainly be grateful that they rained from Sedaris' pen. HIGH-DEMAND BACKSTORY: Sedaris' name creates its own buzz and will continue to do so even with this quirky little book. --Annie Bostrom

Review

PRAISE FOR WHEN YOU ARE ENGULFED IN FLAMES:

"He's the best there is."?Judith Newman, *People*

"A joy to read....Sedaris [is] a connoisseur of human nature at its worst."?Christopher Muther, *Boston Globe*

"Sedaris is certainly worthy of hero worship....He is a master pathfinder."?Mark Washburn, *Charlotte Observer*

"The preeminent humorist of his generation."?Whitney Pastorek, *Entertainment Weekly*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Anthony Hubbard:

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Arthur Furr:

The actual book Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk: A Modest Bestiary will bring you to the new experience of reading a new book. The author style to explain the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book to learn, this book very acceptable to you. The book Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk: A Modest Bestiary is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book from the official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

Kathryn Hebert:

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Vincent Olson:

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