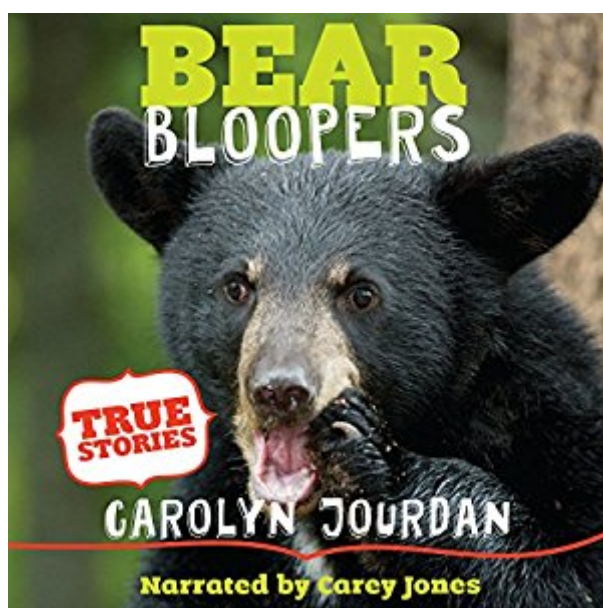


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Bear Bloopers: True Stories From The Great Smoky Mountains National Park - Bear In The Back Seat, Volume 4



Synopsis

A collection of hilarious, heartbreaking, and terrifying encounters with wild black bears in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Rangers, scientists, wildlife photographers, wilderness guides, tourists, and others do all the wrong things when meeting one of the world famous icons of the Smokies. Wake up from a nap and discover a bear sleeping next to you, see a bear driving a car through the park, or hear a ranger whisper a warning that there's a bear in the stall next to you in the ladies room. It's all so emBEARrassing.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 2 hours 18 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

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#448 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > Nature #645 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Environmentalists & Naturalists

Customer Reviews

We have always enjoyed stories of animal/people interactions (think James Herriot or Carolyn Jourdan's personal veterinary stories) plus we live near the Great Smoky Mountain National Park where we have hiked a fair amount and I have spent some time there fishing and volunteering with the fisheries department, so this was a particularly enjoyable read. More importantly perhaps are the messages that Ms Jourdan works into some rather rollicking tales; wild animals are unpredictable and many visitors are clueless. I personally have not had any close interactions with bears (thankfully) but I appreciated the educational bent to many of her stories--I feel a little better equipped should it happen. As a longtime outdoor person I couldn't help but get some good laughs at some of the "interactions" of clearly uninformed people and bears. This is a great companion book to Bear in the Back Seat I & II. If you like outdoor stories of people and wild animals this whole collection is worth reading. If you are "city folk" and are thinking about visiting this area reading this would be a worthwhile activity--forewarned is forearmed!

First off, I want to premise my review by saying that this book is a learning experience. Some of the stories are quite funny, while others are not as funny. I consider some of them a "teachable moment", as in what NOT to do when encountering wild animals. With that being said, I thoroughly enjoyed this book. I laughed out loud a few times with some of these stories. I have always loved our wildlife, especially bears, and this just makes me love them more. It really shows you how incredibly intelligent bears are and at times, a comedy show. Not that encountering one in the wild would be relaxing, but still. I highly recommend this book to everyone who loves bears and our beautiful wildlife.

Written from the Park Rangers perspective these stories gave the feeling of actually being in the moment, without the danger. I wanted it to go on and on as I'm sure there are many more stories out there. Here's hoping !

Thanks once again Carolyn for bringing us both funny and scary stories about the bears, rangers, and people in the Smokies! Short, quick, and fun to read! I hope printed ones are available before Christmas as they would make great stocking stuffers! The stories excite us and make us laugh, but teach us too!

Wonderful book to make you laugh and enjoy some of the antics of the black bears. It also shows how stubborn people are that don't obey signs and communications about not feeding bears or leaving food where they can smell it or get to it. I feel sorry for the Rangers who have to try and save people's lives who do not follow the rules. The book was very enjoyable and I recommend it to everyone who loves stories about bears.

I don't know anything about bears (there are none in my country) so it was interesting to read these stories. I am now very glad that there are no bears in my country! Some of the stories were quite funny but I must say, I was a bit shocked to read about people hiking alone or working alone up trees or abandoning their work partner in potentially dangerous situations. (Just for the record: vodka in a spray bottle is widely used by theatre wardrobes the world over to remove sweat smells from costumes! The costumes do need to be able to dry out however so spraying the inside of a bear suit would definitely be problematic)

Having visited the Great Smoky many times, I can relate to these stories. Though never see in a bear, except those kept in confinement at the top of the mountain where the lift-car takes visitors up and at Zoo's I have visited. I know these are animals could inflict lots of pain, if they so choose. Living in the Midwest all my life, I know there are many dangers waiting for those who choose to enter wooded areas. These Rangers and park personnel must be special people for putting their lives on the line to insure that visitors can enjoy their visit to one of the most beautiful places in America.

This book is a delightful mix of true stories about bear encounters by rangers and others in the Great Smokey Mountains. Many are very humorous although not all. The author also weaves her own comments at times. Probably my favorite story is about a tourist, a bear, and vanilla wafers. The ranger came upon a lady standing with a large bear also standing with his paws on the lady's shoulders. She was placing a wafer in her mouth and the bear was taking it and eating it. To learn the rest of the story you will need to read the book, but I am convinced you will not regret doing so.

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