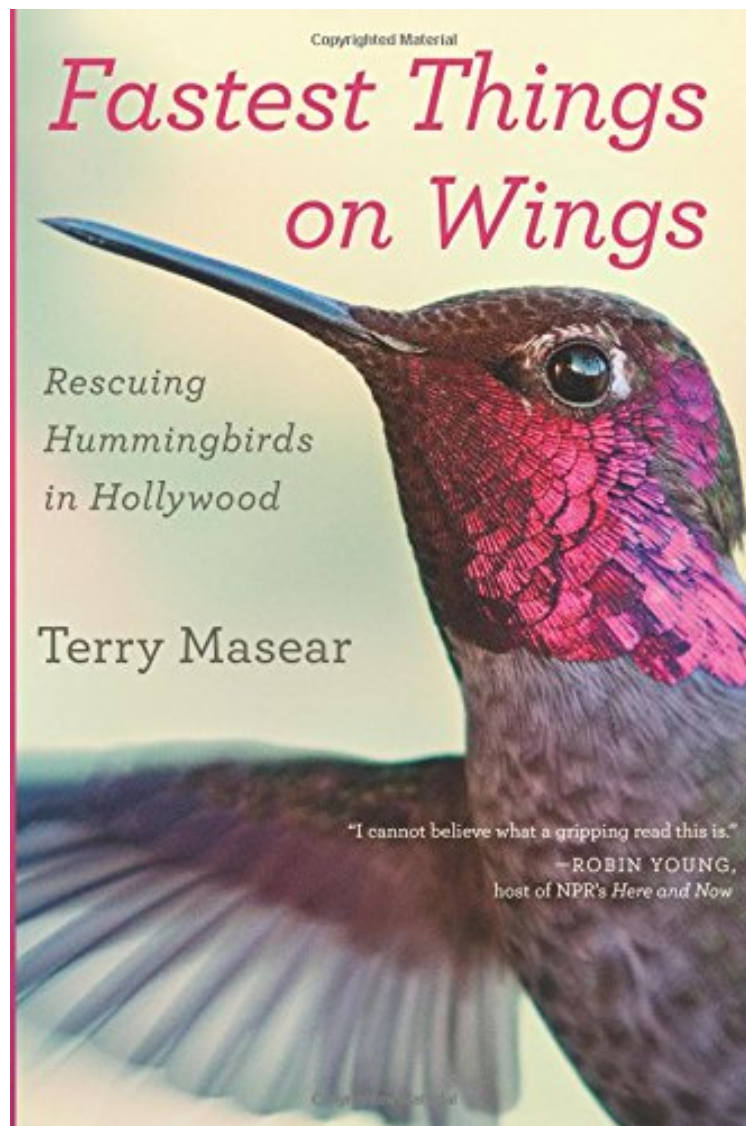


[Free pdf] Fastest Things on Wings: Rescuing Hummingbirds in Hollywood

Fastest Things on Wings: Rescuing Hummingbirds in Hollywood

Terry Masear

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Terry Masear : Fastest Things on Wings: Rescuing Hummingbirds in Hollywood before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fastest Things on Wings: Rescuing Hummingbirds in Hollywood:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I'm Buzzing About This Book!By Essay HellI read an excerpt from this wonderful gem of a book that Audubon shared on their Facebook page a couple weeks ago (who knew feeding hummingbirds tiny ants would kill them?). I was instantly hooked, not only by the poignant story of a bird rescue, but

by the skill the author told it. I'm a picky (sometimes lazy) reader, but this narrative had everything I love in a good read: lots of interesting anecdotes from real-life, fascinating facts and information woven into the storyline and an astute, compassionate and insightful author. I couldn't wait to send a copy to my mother-in-law in New Hampshire who's going through a rough time, and I'm confident it will lift her spirits. I keep thinking of all the friends and family members who I know will love this book, and can't wait to tell them about it. (If you know anyone who maintains a feeder, this would be a perfect gift for any occasion!) If nothing else, this book helps us understand why it's so important to tune into the nature around us, even those of us who live in dense, urban communities. When we start to look and listen closer to these truly amazing creatures, we not only get to enjoy their beauty and antics, but learn about our own connection with the natural world--and why it's so important to find ways to sustain and nurture it. I salute Terry Masear's efforts and feel lucky she also had the writing chops to chronicle them in such an entertaining and meaningful way. For me, the true test of a great book is my excitement about telling others about it. And this is one of those reads.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. *Zen and the Art of Wildlife Rehabilitation* By Bruce McClinton Rehabilitating wildlife requires an extraordinary combination of knowledge, skill and dedication. One must have deep knowledge of the physiology of your patient but also the ability to intuit the needs of a creature incapable of human speech. You must be a counselor to the damaged psyche not only of your patient, but frequently to the humans who bring him to you - and often to yourself. Because rehabbing is not just a hobby or a career, it's an obsession. And the line between obsession and madness can be very thin. No one knows this better than Terry Masear. Her book chronicles her life as a Hummingbird Rehabber in Los Angeles. Over the course of one insane summer she handles thousands of emergency calls, accepts one hundred and sixty orphaned birds and learns more about them, her fellow Angelinos and herself than she thought possible. With a deep philosophical perspective Terry relates stories that will touch your heart and make you laugh out loud - often at the same time. You will find inspiration in the story of Gabriel, a parking attendant at a Beverly Hills restaurant who sees a bird collide with a limo and races out into traffic on Rodeo Drive to save it. Traveling halfway across LA by bus he delivers the dinner napkin swaddled patient to Terry. Although seeming expired, her loving care brings the Anna's Hummingbird back to health. And then there's Stan. "When it comes to saving Hummingbirds, sometimes crazy isn't enough. Some people, like Stan, break rank and elevate the perils of rescue to impossibly dangerous heights." Take two unpredictable orphan Hummingbirds, one inconveniently long branch and one very hostile Rottweiler. Dose liberally with crying twin girls, an angry wife and terminal guilt and you have a formula for slapstick unmatched since Jerry Lewis graced the big screen. Through all the sacrifice, the joys and the despair Terry finds inspiration from these little bundles of feathered dynamite. "... Hummingbirds are the poster children for primal innocence, both theirs and ours. They symbolize the beauty of pristine nature before human civilization came tromping into paradise with its rough, heavy boots and mucked everything up. And despite our ongoing interference, these fearless spirits continue living alongside us, serving as a reminder of what once was, and what can be."

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. *Flying Jewels* By djbittle As an ardent birdwatcher, I found this book to be very informative and compelling. Bird rehabbers are to be respected for their extreme dedication to the creatures in their care. Having a rehabber who writes exceptionally well kept me riveted on her story over several days. This book is a treasure trove of education on the lives of hummers and the things people can do to help them survive. I highly recommend this book to birders and folks who love the natural world. I love all birds, but adore hummingbirds! I rescued one that hit my cabin window in Costa Rica where I was enjoying a birding adventure. I was fortunate to be staying at a lodge in the mountains where a famous hummingbird researcher just happened to be mist netting and studying them. I scooped her from the dirt and ran to the lodge with her in my hand. He took her and examined her, declared her OK, took measurements, fed her some nectar, and released her. I took a photo of her in my hand that is one of my favorites. I live in Southern New Jersey and feed several Ruby-throated summer to fall with native plantings and nectar feeders. I have taken great delight in watching them and can see just how different their personalities are. In fact, as I was writing this, the female who never alights stopped by to visit the feeder and the scarlet honeysuckle!

"I cannot believe what a gripping read this is." —Robin Young, host of NPR's *Here and Now* "A book that will change forever the way you look at these little birds." —Los Angeles Times Before he collided with a limousine, Gabriel, an Anna's hummingbird with head and throat cloaked in iridescent magenta feathers, could spiral hundreds of feet in the air, dive 60 miles per hour in a courtship display, hover, and fly backward. When he arrived in rehab caked in road grime, he was so badly injured that he could barely perch. But Terry Masear, one of the busiest hummingbird rehabilitators in the country, was determined to save this damaged bird. During the five months that Terry worked with Gabriel, she took in 160 orphaned and injured hummingbirds, from a miniature hatchling rescued by a bulldog to Pepper, a female Anna's grounded on a film set. In their time together, Pepper and Gabriel formed a special bond and together, with Terry's help, learned to fly again. Woven around Gabriel's and Pepper's stories are those of other colorful birds in this personal narrative filled with the science and magic surrounding these fascinating creatures. "This is a charming and lively summertime read, something for the patio or balcony, glass of iced tea at hand, a hummingbird or two zipping around the azaleas." —Dallas Morning News "I was riveted, charmed, delighted,

devastated, profoundly moved, and taken to a magical place few people ever get to glimpse.”—Stacey O’Brien, author of *Wesley the Owl* TERRY MASEAR has been rescuing hummingbirds since 2005. Over the past ten years, she and a network of rehabbers in Southern California have rescued 5,000 hummingbirds, the majority of which have been released back into the wild. Terry received her Ph.D. from UCLA, where she teaches English as a Second Language. She has taken time off from teaching to focus on researching and writing about hummingbirds.

“Terry Masear’s charming account of saving hurt and orphaned hummingbirds grabbed my attention from the first paragraph and kept me riveted until the very last page. I loved this artfully woven story and am certain that animal lovers of all ages will as well.” — Michele Raffin, author of *The Birds of Pandemonium* “This rare and lovely book is destined to be a classic. I was riveted, charmed, delighted, devastated, profoundly moved, and taken to a magical place few people ever get to glimpse. It’s one of the best books I’ve ever read about how rehabbers bond with the animals we save.” — Stacey O’Brien, author of *Wesley the Owl* “This book is a delightful read. No one else could write such a wonderful memoir of care, compassion, and delight for these small creatures. Masear’s writing is enthralling and captivating—and I hated for it to end.” — Joanna Burger, author of *The Parrot Who Owns Me* “Fastest Thing on Wings is an exaltation of hummingbirds, but it’s also the story of Terry Masear’s exceptional heart and heroism in saving these fragile and remarkable creatures. In her beautiful account, every rescue is a revelation. Hollywood is full of stars, but few shine as brightly as hers.” — Wayne Pacelle, president and CEO, Humane Society of the United States