

By J David Henry Red Fox The Catlike Canine Smithsonian Nature Book

Red FoxRed Fox: the Catlike CanineThe Biology and Conservation of Wild CanidsRecent Publications in Natural HistoryResearch Reports /c Smithsonian InstitutionDepartment of the Interior and related agencies appropriations for 1988Smithsonian YearOwls Aren't Wise and Bats Aren't BlindWhat Species of CreaturesThe World of the FoxSmithsonian Scientific SeriesSmithsonian Scientific SeriesThe Smithsonian SeriesAnnual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian InstitutionCooperation, Competition and Kinship in the Social Relationships Among Spotted Hyenas, Crocuta CrocutaThe Fox and the JewelFox-wife Motif in Three Classical Japanese TextsThe Fox and the JewelAnnual report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian InstitutionThe Natural History of Canadian Mammals *J. David Henry John David Henry David W. Macdonald United States. Congress. House. Committee on Appropriations. Subcommittee on Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Smithsonian Institution Warner Shedd Sharon Kirsch Rebecca Lynn Grambo Charles Greeley Abbot Smithsonian Institution. Board of Regents Sofia Anne Wahaj Karen Ann Smyers Julia Lynn Beebe Karen A. Smyers Smithsonian Institution Donna Naughton*

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in this engaging introduction to the red fox *vulpes vulpes* j david henry recounts his years of field research on this flame colored predator with its catlike whiskers teeth and paws as well as vertical slit pupils the north american red fox not only resembles but often behaves like a feline especially when hunting probing the reasons for these similarities henry reveals the behavior and ecology of a species that thrives from the edge of suburbia to the cold northern tundra

no group of wild mammals so universally captures the emotions of people world wide than do wild canids that emotion can be enchantment and fascination but it can also be loathing because the opportunism that is the hallmark of the dog family also leads them into conflict with humans in the developed world at least the fascination with wild canids doubtless stems from people's captivation with domestic dogs everybody feels they are an expert on canids while most people may be familiar with only the better known members of the dog family such as the grey wolf and the red fox there are in fact 36 species of wolves dogs jackals and foxes they attract hugely disproportionate interest from academics conservationists veterinarians wildlife managers and the general public this book brings together in single volume an astonishing synthesis of research done in the last twenty years and is the first truly compendious synthesis on wild canids beginning with a complete account of all 36 canid species there follow six review chapters that emphasise topics most relevant to canid conservation science including evolution and systematics behavioural ecology population genetics diseases conflict control of troublesome species and conservation tools fifteen detailed case studies then delve deeply into the very best species investigations currently available written by all the leading figures in the field much of the material is previously unpublished and will make fascinating reading far beyond the confines of canid specialists these chapters portray the unique attributes of wild canids their fascinating and conflictive relationship with man and suggestions for future research and conservation measures for the canidae while most canid species are widespread and thrive in human dominated landscapes several are in severe jeopardy habitat loss illegal hunting persecution by farmers and disease all imperil dwindling populations a final chapter analyses the requirements of and approaches to practical conservation with lessons that go far beyond the dog family it concentrates particular attention on priorities for the protection of the most threatened canid species including the red wolf african wild dog ethiopian wolf island fox and darwin's fox the wild canids provide examples that will thrill the evolutionary biologists and theoretician enthrall the natural historian and challenge the conservationist and wildlife manager anybody interested in evolutionary and behavioural biology in mammals in the environment or in conservation will find much that is new and enriching in this book

did you know that flying squirrels are incapable of true flight were you aware that opossums don't play dead as in the common folk saying playing possum in this fascinating and gorgeously illustrated new book wildlife expert and enthusiast warner shedd former executive for the national wildlife federation uncovers the scientific realities obscured by our numerous long held misconceptions of wild animals setting the most tenacious of these age old superstitions against evidence that he and other biologists and naturalists have gleaned from careful observation and investigation shedd refutes such popular myths as beavers can fell trees in a desired direction gray squirrels remember where they bury nuts wolves howl at the moon and cougars are an endangered species in addition to dispelling misinformation owls aren't wise bats aren't blind presents some fascinating facts about the animals that many of us encounter in our own backyards or walking across the road as we drive in our cars for instance did you know that a porcupine is actually a large rodent and that its

protective quills are really specialized hairs numbering about 30 000 per animal that means that a typical porcupine has about 140 quills per square inch shedd also uses humorous anecdotes to show us how funny and educational it can be when animals themselves defy our mistaken beliefs about them casting new light on the old tenet that ravens can be taught to mimic the human voice warner shedd tells of a scientist who spent six years teaching a raven to cry nevermore after the haunting raven in the famous edgar allan poe poem shedd further explains that recent research indicates that ravens only mimic if they have the desire to do so owls aren't wise bats aren't blind covers more than thirty north american species some as familiar as the common toad others as elusive as the lynx and shedd captivates the reader as only an experienced naturalist could with detailed accurate information on such varied wildlife as muskrats herons brown bears crows armadillos and coyotes to name only a few owls aren't wise bats aren't blind grew out of warner shedd's desire to share biologically sound information and counter erroneous folklore about wild animals by arming his readers with knowledge shedd hopes to promote a more informed and respectful view of many north american wildlife species and ultimately encourage the scientific management and conservation of all our native wildlife

the europeans who colonized north america more than three centuries ago encountered fantastical creatures flying squirrels ruby throated hummingbirds the easily tamed beaver their literature of discovery by turns comic cruel and adulatory provides a revealing glimpse of the taxonomies they carried with them into their so called new world sharon kirsch weaves early settler accounts fables children's stories natural histories and 21st century science in a quirky narrative that probes our complicated relationship with the other creatures that share the planet illustrated with twenty period drawings and peppered with verbatim accounts by these early settlers what species of creatures is a rich and satisfying stew of odd historical facts and figures fascinating kirsch skillfully stitches together this scattered survey of european testimony and observations about encounters with new world animals with very challenging but rich prose with so few books in early canadian history on the subject of human animal relations however kirsch's work is a very welcome contribution that should open the door for other scholars and writers to pursue this kind of research sean kheraj's net humanities and social sciences on line offers unexpected surprises in each chapter on almost every page this book is like no other i know an imaginative assemblage of intriguing material on human and animal lives woven together seamlessly to create mysterious tales sharon kirsch has produced a unique scholarly and engaging chronicle of the early encounters between europeans and the new world animals lynette hart anthrozoos

an exploration into the private lives of foxes

the deity inari has been worshipped in japan since at least the early eighth century and today is a revered presence in such varied venues as shinto shrines buddhist temples factories theaters private households restaurants beauty shops and rice fields although at first glance and to its many devotees inari worship may seem to be a unified phenomenon it is in fact exceedingly multiple noncodified and noncentralized

no single regulating institution dogma scripture or myth centers the practice in this exceptionally insightful study the author explores the worship of inari in the context of homogeneity and diversity in japan the shape shifting fox and the wish fulfilling jewel the main symbols of inari serve as interpretive metaphors to describe the simultaneously shared yet infinitely diverse meanings that cluster around the deity that such diversity exists without the apparent knowledge of inari worshippers is explained by the use of several communicative strategies that minimize the exchange of substantive information shared generalized meanings tatemae are articulated while private meanings and complexities honne are left unspoken the appearance of unity is reinforced by a set of symbols representing fertility change and growth in ways that can be interpreted and understood by many individuals of various ages and occupations the fox and the jewel describes the rich complexity of inari worship in contemporary japan it explores questions of institutional and popular power in religion demonstrates the ways people make religious figures personally meaningful and documents the kinds of communicative styles that preserve the appearance of homogeneity in the face of astonishing factionalism

the selection of species to include in this book was based on two principles 1 those that in recent times had a viable naturally occurring wild population in canada its continental islands or in the marine waters of its continental shelf and 2 species introduced into canada by humans p xiv

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