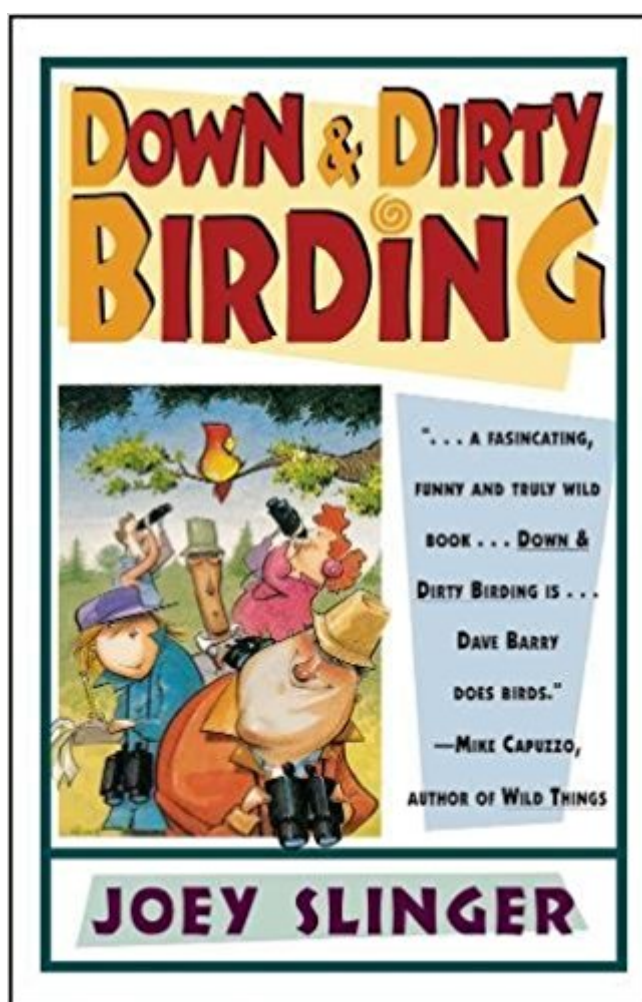


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# Down And Dirty Birding: From The Sublime To The Ridiculous, Here's All The Outrageous But True Stuff You've Ever Wanted To Know About North American Birds





## Synopsis

Combining useful facts with humorous advice, a witty guide to birding covers how to watch birds without leaving home, collecting the proper equipment, identifying birds, and understanding bird behavior. 20,000 first printing.

## Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Touchstone; Original ed. edition (July 3, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 068480459X

ISBN-13: 978-0684804590

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 25 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,526,563 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #95 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Science & Scientists](#) #2358 in [Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Birds & Birdwatching](#) #10053 in [Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Fauna](#)

## Customer Reviews

Slinger's comprehensive introduction to birding (i.e., bird-watching) is primarily for novices but may also inform and amuse experienced birders. Slinger covers background, vocabulary, equipment pros and cons, and North American bird species, their habits, their peculiarities, and good sites for watching them, in impressive depth, and he provides his own special tips on finding and distinguishing between many North American species (oddly, the book has no illustrative pictures, just cartoons). His approach is irreverent, his language often colorful: "Kirtland's Warblers are picky, picky, picky. They demand jack pines, but the jack pines must have grown after a forest fire" and only "somewhere between five and eighteen feet . . . you want to say [to these birds] `Try to be a little more adaptable, you dumb sons of bitches.'" Mike Tribby

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The author may not be the biggest authority on birding, but he definitely brings a "spark" to it with this book. If you know someone who would be a birder if the birds weren't so damn boring, then

THIS is the book for them! It's a pretty hilarious read for anyone who simply loves birds and, I recommend this book 100%. I've read it twice now. This is NOT, however, for the birder who will pick apart and correct every "myna" (get it?) detail of a "bird" book. This book is VERY dangerous for them, as the laughter it induces could cause them severe facial cracking. ;)

Excellent, informative and fun book. I already own it and bought another copy for a friend who I know will love it. Seller sent book in a timely manner, it was just as advertised. I'd buy from them again. S. Fields

Oh my. What to say about this book. Sort of like Dave Barry meets Roger Tory Peterson. A light hearted look at birds and those who watch them. No pictures, but fun and useful none the less. Slinger's brief descriptions in the last half of the book are spot-on, with gems like "meadowlarks slouch", and "Swainson's hawks soar wobbly". Both apt descriptions and useful in the field, too. And he doesn't mince words when describing "dickass birders" and such, either. Alas, I can see myself all too often in his descriptions of birders and their birding antics. A good read.

I'm sending the book back because I didn't care for all the profanity. I think the book could still be funny without all the cussing it in.

A hilarious read had me laughing out loud -- because I've done some of these same crazy things! If you like birds -- birdwatching -- and to laugh -- get it.

Laugh out loud funny. As birding instructor, I found it a fun (and painless) way to introduce birding to my reluctant children.

Slinger is knowledgeable, irreverent, interesting, clear, funny, and very well worth reading. There are times when his breezy off-hand style seems a little forced, and his review of bird identification is basically a waste of space; but the book is a highly original approach to birding, and has much valuable information written in such an engaging light-hearted manner that I think every serious -- and not-so-serious -- birder would enjoy it.

This book is very funny. I'm a bird watcher and got some great laughs from it. I would recommend it to birders especially.

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