



The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating

By Elisabeth Tova Bailey

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"The hero of this story enters . . . well . . . rather slowly. It doesn't don a cape or sport a lightening bolt on its chest, but its effects are monumental. The actions of this tiny mollusk become all-consuming . . . Everything about this slip of a book is unassuming, yet its petite size, prose, and characters rise like quiet giants from its pages." --BookBrowse.com

In a work that beautifully demonstrates the rewards of closely observing nature, Elisabeth Bailey shares an inspiring and intimate story of her uncommon encounter with a *Neohelix albolabris* -a common woodland snail.

While an illness keeps her bedridden, Bailey watches a wild snail that has taken up residence on her nightstand. As a result, she discovers the solace and sense of wonder that this mysterious creature brings and comes to a greater understanding of her own confined place in the world.

Intrigued by the snail's molluscan anatomy, cryptic defenses, clear decision making, hydraulic locomotion, and mysterious courtship activities, Bailey becomes an astute and amused observer, providing a candid and engaging look into the curious life of this underappreciated small animal.-

Told with wit and grace, *The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating* is a remarkable journey of survival and resilience, showing us how a small part of the natural world illuminates our own human existence and provides an appreciation of what it means to be fully alive.

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The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating By Elisabeth Tova Bailey Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Booklist

Starred Review At age 34, Bailey was stricken with a mysterious virus while on a trip to Europe. Her healthy life had been full of activity, and now just the thought of getting up to get something was exhaustive. When a friend found some violets and brought her one in a pot, she also added a live snail below the violet's leaves. Bailey wondered why she needed a snail, but after square holes began to appear in a letter propped on the violet's pot, it occurred to Bailey that the snail needed food. She put a withered flower in the saucer below, and when the snail began to eat, Bailey realized that she could hear it eating—it was the sound of someone very small munching on celery. Soon the author realized she was attached, the snail providing an oasis of calm for her frantic and frustrated thoughts. She worried that the snail's world was too artificial, so her caregiver created a woodland terrarium. Not only did the snail have a new home but Bailey had a new game: hide-and-seek with a snail. She began to read about snails, learning from scientists, early naturalists, poets, and writers, and found herself beginning to understand a snail's world. And when her snail began to lay eggs, Bailey discovered that she might be the first person to record observations of a snail tending its eggs. This beautiful little book will not only make snail lovers of its readers, it will make them appreciate the small things in life. --Nancy Bent

From Kirkus Reviews

A charming, delicate meditation on the meaning of life. -- Kirkus Review

Review

"An exquisite meditation on the restorative connection between nature and humans . . . with sentences of stunning lyrical beauty. --Huffington Post

"How interesting can a snail be? Entirely captivating, as it turns out. [Bailey] is a marvelous writer, and the marriage of science and poetic mysticism that characterizes this small volume is magical . . ." --Star Tribune

"Wait, did you say a wild snail? As opposed to domestic? Well, I'm intrigued." --"Books for Dudes," Library Journal

"[Bailey] honors the gastropod with a poetic history of its short, astonishing life." --MORE Magazine

"[Bailey] found comfort in an unlikely companion--a tiny snail, whose micro-doings are the source of a surprising philosophy."

--Entertainment Weekly

"What starts as an improbable story becomes an irresistible one . . . this elegant little gem is a triumph." --Maine Sunday Telegram

Riveting . . . --DownEast Magazine

"One sweet story . . ." --Indie Next List

Users Review

From reader reviews:

David Soto:

Hey guys, do you really wants to finds a new book to see? May be the book with the headline The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating suitable to you? The actual book was written by popular writer in this era. Often the book untitled The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating is the main of several books which everyone read now. This book was inspired lots of people in the world. When you read this publication you will enter the new dimension that you ever know previous to. The author explained their strategy in the simple way, thus all of people can easily to comprehend the core of this book. This book will give you a lot of information about this world now. So that you can see the represented of the world on this book.

Johnnie Nystrom:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to receive information. The information will make a professional understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information much easier to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, newspaper, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. Typically the book that recommended to your account is The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating this publication consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. That book was represented how do the world has grown up. The vocabulary styles that writer use to explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some research when he makes this book. This is why this book acceptable all of you.

Adrian Kao:

Many people spending their time by playing outside using friends, fun activity with family or just watching TV all day every day. You can have new activity to pay your whole day by looking at a book. Ugh, do you consider reading a book can actually hard because you have to use the book everywhere? It all right you can have the e-book, bringing everywhere you want in your Cell phone. Like The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating which is getting the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's find.

James McFarland:

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