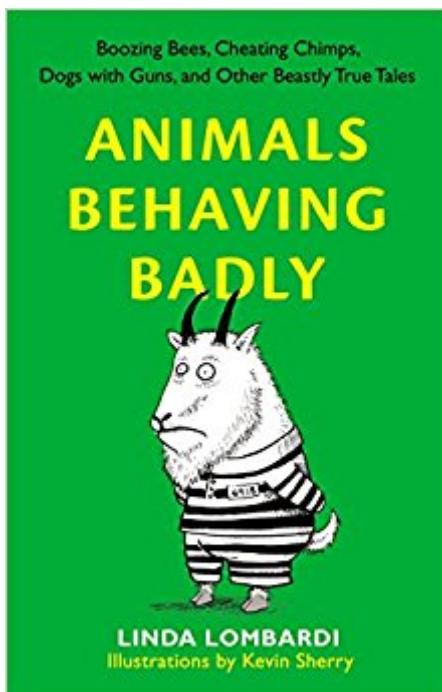


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Animals Behaving Badly: Boozing Bees, Cheating Chimps, Dogs With Guns, And Other Beastly True Tales



Synopsis

There's a lot that animals don't want you to know, and the better their public image, the worse their secrets are: gang-rapist dolphins; lazy, infanticidal lions; and, of course, our own dogs, who eat our money, set our houses on fire, and in more than one case, actually shoot their owners with guns. *Animals Behaving Badly* shows that animals are just like us: gluttonous, selfish, violent, lustful, and always looking out for number one. Using anecdotes from the news and from scientific research, Linda Lombardi pokes fun at our softhearted preconceptions about animals, makes us feel a little better about humanity's basest impulses, and painlessly teaches us a bit more about our furry and feathered friends. You'll learn: Bees love alcohol: even, says one researcher, more than college students Pandas enjoy pornographic movies—they're particularly aroused by the soundtrack—and macaques will pay with juice to look at dirty pictures A rabbit who lives in a pub in England is addicted to gambling with a slot machine African elephants raised by teenage mothers form violent youth gangs

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Customer Reviews

"This book is educational, hilarious, and it makes me wish it was legal to participate in cage fighting with an endangered species." -Matthew Inman, TheOatmeal.com and author of 5 Very Good Reasons to Punch a Dolphin in the Mouth

As a child growing up in the Bronx, Linda Lombardi liked to play with a basket full of plastic animals

instead of human dolls. Later in life, she gave up a tenured position as a college professor to take a zookeeping job. Formerly the pets and animals columnist for the Associated Press and author of the mystery *The Sloth's Eye*, she has spent much of her life either slaving over animals or writing about how great they are. This book is her revenge. Visit her website and the *Animals Behaving Badly* blog at www.lindalombardi.com

There's a reason we turn to a boorish idiot and say, "Stop acting like such an animal!" It's the same reason why grandmothers wipe up muddy footprints and demand to know, "Were you born in a barn?" Animals act like animals! Lombardi's book is a very humorous look at times that animals act like...well...ANIMALS! It's by pure coincidence that I picked up the mail while chatting on the phone with my mother; my mom had found a recipe for cookies on PetCo's website and quite honestly couldn't tell if the cookies were intended for people or for dogs! The recipe was tucked in among tidbits on how to make your pet a part of family game night and an advertisement for cutsie pajamas so your dog could unwrap presents with the family on Christmas morning. They're animals! And Lombardi's book takes a quirky tongue-in-cheek look at evidence that proves it. A fun read!

I LOVE animals and find these short narratives about their "naughtiness" hysterical. I laugh-out-loud *at least* twice a page and find each chapter very entertaining. If you're an animal lover, you will enjoy this book.

I got this as a gift for a friend, so I haven't read it myself, but she loved it! As soon as she finishes it, I will be reading it too.

Good read, this book has a proud place right next to the head. Seven more words are needed before I can post. Done

If you think this is a children's book, think again. With my background and longstanding interest in behavioral biology, I was familiar with almost all of the behaviors described in this book but they seem so different when discussed in a dispassionate, scientific parlance. Lombardi's quirky sense of humor (also on display in her novel, *The Sloth's Eye*) puts a whole new spin on things. Looked at in this new light, some animal behavior is hilarious, some disturbing and some just plain disgusting. When Lombardi compares the bad behavior of the animals in the book to human behavior, it doesn't matter how badly the animals behave, the humans still come off looking worse,

although not in any kind of lecturing or preachy mode, just a little bit of introspection. As a major capybara afflictionado, I was relieved that capybaras only make two quick cameo appearances, both on the (slightly) positive side.

I loved this book. Like other reviewers have said, it is a collection of a wide range of stories, facts, and statistics designed to give us a peek at the dark underbelly of wildlife that has otherwise been placed on a pedestal. Animal facts aside, Linda's writing throughout the book is entertaining and engaging. If I do have a complaint, it's that I no longer view dolphins, hummingbirds, and chimpanzees the same way. :) I highly recommend this book.

This book was awesome because it gave me all sorts of alibis for arson and such. Who knew animals were such terrific scape-goats?

Linda Lombardi is a clever, clever woman. "The lady doth protest too much, methinks" (at least in its modern re-interpretation) applies to her work in this entertaining read. As you flick through anecdotes, new clippings, and observations on the comical misadventures between man and beast the words consistently say the animal is at fault; in truth it is anthropomorphism and our own collective delusions about the supposed nobility of nature that she is skewering. Highly recommended.

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