



The Cry of the Crow

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A gun blast wakes Mandy one morning. Someone in her family is shooting crows again. To Mandy's father and older brothers, crows are pests that have to be kept away from the farm's valuable strawberry crop. Even her younger brother, Drummer, can't wait until he's old enough to learn to shoot. So when Mandy finds the helpless baby crow in the woods, she feeds and tames her in secret.

The Cry of the Crow Details

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Author : Jean Craighead George

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From Reader Review The Cry of the Crow for online ebook

Bodhi K. says

I am currently reading Jean Craighead George's The Cry of the Crow. The book is about a young girl named Mandy Tressel. Her father kills crows with guns because he works in the family blueberry farm and he thinks that the crows eat the blueberries. Then Mandy's family would not be able to make money. If I was Mandy's father I would not just kill crows like that. I would read about them and see if blueberries are part of their diet. So far I would give this book five stars out of 1 star because it is very interesting and has dilemmas. One of the dilemmas in particular is when Mandy finds a baby crow out of its nest and she does not know if she should save it or not. If she saved the baby crow then she would risk her dad finding out the crow and then she would get punished. If she left it there the bird might die and Mandy always wants to help other things. Mandy decided to help the bird, so she looked around if anyone was nearby and then brought the baby crow home. I can relate to this when I saved a young sparrow that got violently hurt. The bird got hurt by a much bigger bird fighting with it. I felt a good feeling stir in me when I saved the bird. I am at the part when Mandy tries to make a pretend newspaper for fun.

Carol says

Not one of George's best, and a tad dated, but I enjoyed the info about crows and the Florida Everglades setting. At times it was a little too obvious that George was trying to work in real research info, but I don't think kids would notice, and for the most part it was pretty seamless. I won't spoil it, but George ends the book on an abrupt and slightly startling note.

Andrew says

This book greatly describes how Mandy Tressel raises a crow. It is finely detailed and I want to read it again.

Pamela says

Meaningful, but sad story and ending! Lovely story about letting go even in the worst cases.

Chris says

If you have children, and you want to let them read very boring literature, this is the book for you. On the brightside, this will teach a young reader everything they need to know about quotation marks. Boy does this book love quotation marks.

Susan Johnson says

We enjoyed this as a read aloud, though I thought how she made a point of husbands and wives having separate bank accounts was unnecessary. However, it provided a chance for me to talk with my kids about that aspect of marriage.

Lots of great crow lore! As we are reading her book "A Tarantula in my Purse" for school, we recognized several episodes as drawn from the author's personal experience with pet crows.

stephanie says

I honestly don't know weather to rate this book a one or a five. I hated it with passion, but only because moved me so deeply. It made such a huge impact on me, and I hated it because it tore my heart to pieces, I sobbed for quite a long time, but I think it was a good experience. I will never touch the book again, but I'll also never forget how it affected me.

Denise Spicer says

The 1980 Newberry Medal author (for Julie of the Wolves) presents us with a story set on a Florida farm. Young Wendy rescues a wounded baby crows and hides if from her father who kills the birds as pests. This interesting dilemma (torn between her dad's way of life and protecting her pet) leads to unfortunate events. Though this is a book for children, it may be too sad for younger ones.

Alex says

Ack! Sad, sad ending. Possibly unnecessarily sad. I'm hurt and confused.

OK-- so, Jean Craighead George-- author of classics such as My Side of the Mountain and Julie of the Wolves. Unimpeachably awesome.

I brought this along on a backpacking trip because my current book must weigh 5 pounds, so this one was light. I read most of it in my hammock at a secluded mountain lake, where I could hear the crows calling (although they didn't sound that intelligent to me)... so, this was kind of the perfect book for the setting.

The plot is a little thin, though, and it's convenient how all these minor characters know just a little about crows, but still remain ignorant of them.

Anyways, not one of Jean Craighead George's best, but still worth reading... but Ah--that sad ending.

Vincent says

This children's story centers on Mandy, a young girl who develops a relationship with a crow. Honestly not much more to say. I am going to encourage my kids to read it but won't push.

Leeann says

As in all of Jean Craighead George's books, I learn so much about animal behaviors. I really enjoyed this book up until the end.

Samantha Miller wilson says

I enjoyed this easy read very much but but gave it three stars for the ending. Felt the ending was unnecessary

Amanda says

Apparently this author writes other better books. This started as a book club that quit before the end. I don't know. The story is about a girl befriending a crow and trying to love it like a person, but it's really a wild animal. I guess the consequences of the mistake become clear by the end. There's a moral here.

Michael Okuno says

a really lovel book with a really hurting ending.

Abcde says

This book was really boring. This book is about this girl named Mandy that has a weird relationship with crows. One day she is walking home from the farm or crops, and this crow follows her like started walking on its two legs. She is trying to convince her father that it's bad to shoot the crows because there actually doing more help than you think. I didn't really like this book because i didn't get what she was talking about most of the time so basically it was boring and confusing.
