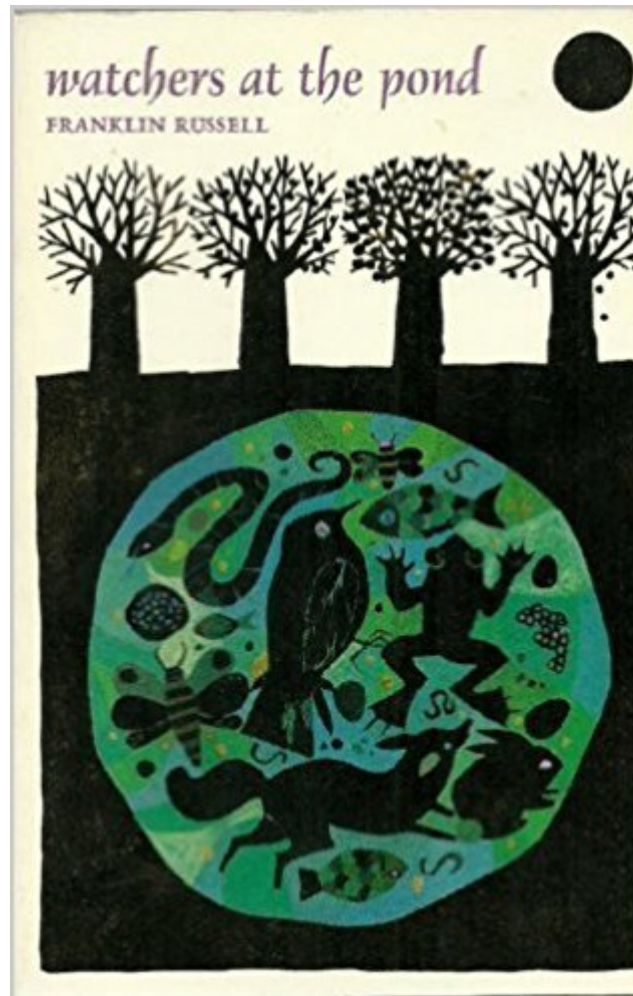




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Watchers At The Pond



Synopsis

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Watchers at the Pond is quite simple, one of the greatest "novelizations" of nature and the environment, ever. It follows over the course of one year and four seasons, the lives of many different insects, fish, amphibians and mammals that live in and around a pond that appears to be located in a woodland in the northeastern or north central United States or southern Canada. You enter their world. The book is beautifully written and ecologically accurate. Russell is at pains to show the fierce interaction between death and life in nature; without the one, there cannot be the other. This is a wonderful book; at once a revelation and an experience. I recommend it highly, for all those interested in learning more about the natural world around us.

This is really one of the most incredible books I have ever read. Truly a great, unrecognized classic! Although an account of seasonal life in and around a pond, it took me to some pretty deep places

within myself. Not to sound melodramatic, but at times, reading this book was something akin to a religious experience. The author has this amazing ability to be writing along about something seemingly obscure and then knock you into "the big picture" with the simple turn of a phrase. His writing is clear and precise, yet mind-blowing in his ability to put you in a place of complete awe of what is going on around us at all times in nature. To me it reads like a movie. I am curious to know more about the author, but there doesn't seem to be much out there on the web. I would love to know more about his background, and how he came to know some of the things he writes about. Did he witness these events? This is a real gem. Anyone who has even the slightest interest in nature should read this. In fact, people who have no interest in nature should read this, because I could almost guarantee, they would be transformed by it.

As someone that has only read a few books on nature, as I generally prefer history, I found this to be a very enjoyable, thought provoking book.

I owned this book in its original print but bought a second copy to use for a gift. It is so beautifully written and while the entire thing takes place at the same pond over the course of a year, it is never boring but makes you aware of all the many little dramas, the life and death matters that take place just around that little pond. Fabulous book for nature lovers.

It will take you to your knees in the nature between the covers.

I'm a zoologist/educator and have been for 40 years. This book, more than any other, inspired me to make natural history my career. I'm disappointed that I can only give this book 5 stars.....it deserves a universe of stars.

This is one of the most fascinating books of the genre I've had the pleasure to read. A year in the life of a pond. While this subject may sound mundane, I will promise you that you will not be able to put it down once you start. Good, I mean "really good" nature books are hard to find. This ranks among the best. I have to agree with another reviewer in that, in this case, the written word is as powerful as the camera, if not more so. The author has wonderful insight to the workings of nature. If you can find a copy of this one, read it and enjoy it. I highly recommend.

The most moving, awesome book I've ever read about ecology. On the surface it simply follows all

the life forms around a pond through 1 year. Things are born, hatched, germinated; and they die; 1/4 of the way through all the death really got me down, but I kept reading, and eventually realized that it's only in my own head that events are "bad" or "good." Russell succeeded at an extremely difficult task: presenting things as they are. The journey takes you deep into yourself, gives you a new perspective of the living systems that embody and support life on Earth. Dover Books should do a reprint of this book!

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