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A bad birdwatcher's companion

SIMON BARNES

Simon Barnes is one of Britain's leading bird writers and humorists. His weekly column in *The Times*, his essays for the RSPB magazine and his two books on bad bird-watching have made him one of the characters of the bird world. Here he reads his own illuminating introductions to the 50 main birds of Britain, supported by the distinguishing bird song of each species. He not only gives helpful identifying features, but enriches them with whimsical observations on their characters and tendencies. It is a delightful text, superbly presented by the author himself.



Simon Barnes, the award-winning chief sportswriter for *The Times* and frequently controversial columnist for the RSPB's *Birds* magazine, is the author of more than a dozen books, including four on wildlife and three novels. His bestselling *How to be a bad birdwatcher* was published by Short Books in 2004. He lives in Suffolk with his family and has seen a barn owl, kingfisher and marsh harrier in his garden.

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