

WC Peace – Wildlife Animal Encounters

Note: More photos to be added over time.

- 1) scuba diving in Palau - dozens of **sharks** at a time, **turtles**, big schools of **fish**
- 2) up close and personal with **deer** in Nara, Japan



- 3) scuba diving with **pipefish** and **cuttlefish** off Ko Lanta, Thailand
- 4) **penguins, birds** - in quantities more than one can count - Islas Ballestas, Peru
- 5) being touched by **sea lions** and **fish** underwater in the Galapagos Islands off Ecuador



- 6) hanging with **old turtles, iguanas**, and colorful **birds** in the Galapagos Islands
- 7) getting strafed by a **flying toucan** while in sight of the incomparable Iguassu Falls, Brazil / Argentina

- 8) being surrounded by **Asian elephants** in Sri Lanka



- 9) getting friendly with **kea birds** in the mountains of New Zealand
10) spotting **koala bears** high up in the trees while driving a convertible off the Great Ocean Road in Australia
11) being spooked by the cackling call of **kookaburras** while hiking alone in a temperate rainforest in Australia
12) seeing a solitary **polar bear** eating a seal while snowmobiling in Svalbard, Norway



Polar bear photos by Anker Møllerop

Compare these with photos taken at zoos! Svalbard has strict rules on the distance one may be near to a polar bear.



- 13) being several feet away (no barrier) from an adult male **lion** (not sleeping) near Port Elizabeth, South Africa (This experience is explained in the novel)
- 14) getting faced down by a **wild African elephant** in Pilanesburg National Park, South Africa



This experience is recounted in the novel between two characters at a zoo. The exact same thing is happening to another car in the distance in the photo on the upper right. You can see it when zooming in. Photos by WC Peace

- 15) whistling and singing with **marmots** in Mount Rainier National Park near Seattle, USA
- 16) seeing **scarlet macaws** fly free in Medellin, Colombia from his home balcony



- 17) going **bird watching** on Pipeline Road near Panama City, Panama
- 18) snorkeling with **stingerless jellyfish** in Palau

- 19) seeing **polar bears** wait for the ice to form in Churchill, Manitoba, Canada



- 20) watching dozens of **bald eagles** on the Skagit River in Washington State, USA
21) face to face with huge **manta rays** while scuba diving off Exmouth, Australia
22) seeing a **blue whale** breach while suffering and puking from motion sickness after a dive off Exmouth, Australia
23) listening to **howler monkeys** while touring the haunting ruins of Tikal in Guatemala
24) seeing **guanaco** run free in Torres Del Paine, Chile and coastal Argentina
25) **hummingbirds, blue butterflies** near Mt. Arenal, Costa Rica
26) playing staring games with huge **iguanas** (5 ft+?) amongst the repressive humidity of Manual Antonio Park, Costa Rica
27) **kangaroos** in Australia
28) **rhinos, elephants, giraffes** in Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve, South Africa
29) **hippos** in St Lucia, South Africa
30) singing with **cockatoos** in the Blue Mountains of Australia

- 31) pondering breathing rocks – **stromatolites** – in Shark Bay



- 32) **frogfish, lion fish, stone fish** underwater in the Philippines
33) looking out for crazy colorful **nudibranchs** in the Philippines, and elsewhere...
34) **dolphins, dolphins, and more dolphins** off Dana Point, California, USA
35) huge **Napoleon Wrasse** while scuba diving in Cairns, Australia and Palau
36) cycling alone and using his bicycle as protection while backing away from a **troop of monkeys** on a trail in Tsitsikamma National Park, South Africa
37) **Whales** breaching in Hermanus, South Africa from the coast
38) **Thorny toad** in Western Australia



- 39) **Termite Mounds** in Western Australia
40) **Garter snakes** growing up at home and a “**big long snake**” in his garage in California – attracted to the purr of a new kitten. A neighbor called it a brown snake, but per the photos on this website – <http://www.californiaherps.com/identification/snakesid/common.html> – it was probably a **gopher snake** or **brown garter snake**.
41) **Mosquitos, flies, cockroaches**, and other (in the past – often annoying and scary) insects all over the world. “Creepy crawly things.” [If I change, will these creatures look different, will they stop annoying me?]
42) **Sea lions** – various places around Peninsula Valdes, Argentina
43) **Rockhopper** and **Magellanic Penguins** near Puerto Deseado, Argentina

- 44) **Commerson's dolphins** (black & white) near Puerto Deseado, Argentina
- 45) **Two black bears** from a ski lift in Whistler, Canada
- 46) **Black bear** running across the road in Golden Ears Provincial Park, Canada
- 47) **Robins** around the neighborhood growing up (Did you know song birds are on the decline? <http://songbirdsos.com/>)
- 48) **Canadian geese** while at university and elsewhere

What have you seen in the WILD?

You don't have to go as far as the author has, but you do have to make an effort!

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And here are some wild animals that are in "less fortunate circumstances."

Jakarta, Indonesia bird market (2003) – **Pasar Burung**



Bet they don't show these on their tourism promotion videos! Anyways...about positive-bias..., but then again, maybe there is nothing wrong with this? When WE know ourSELVES, and our CULTures, WE won't be doing stuff like this. **Search for videos on – Pasar Burung** – They are in many Indonesian cities.