

Falconry: The Ultimate Guide to the Art of Hunting with Birds of Prey



Falconry by Jemima Parry-Jones

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English

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Text-to-Speech : Enabled



Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 316 pages



Falconry is the ancient art of hunting with birds of prey. It is a challenging and rewarding sport that requires patience, skill, and a deep understanding of the natural world. This comprehensive guide covers everything you need to know to get started, from choosing and training your bird to hunting techniques and equipment.

With stunning photography and expert advice, this book is the perfect resource for both novice and experienced falconers. Whether you are interested in learning more about the history of falconry, training your own bird, or simply enjoying the beauty of these magnificent creatures, this book has something for you.

Choosing a Bird of Prey

The first step in becoming a falconer is choosing a bird of prey. There are many different species of birds that can be used for falconry, each with its own unique strengths and weaknesses. The best bird for you will depend on your experience level, hunting style, and the type of prey you are interested in hunting.

Some of the most popular birds of prey used for falconry include:

- **Falcons:** Falcons are known for their speed and agility, making them ideal for hunting small game such as rabbits and grouse.
- **Hawks:** Hawks are larger and more powerful than falcons, making them better suited for hunting larger game such as deer and foxes.
- **Eagles:** Eagles are the largest and most powerful birds of prey, and they can be used to hunt a wide variety of game.

When choosing a bird of prey, it is important to consider its age, sex, and health. You should also make sure that the bird is compatible with your personality and lifestyle.

Training a Bird of Prey

Once you have chosen a bird of prey, you will need to train it to hunt. This is a complex and time-consuming process that requires patience and dedication. The first step is to bond with your bird and establish trust. This can be done by spending time with your bird, handling it regularly, and providing it with food and water.

Once your bird is bonded with you, you can begin to teach it basic obedience commands. These commands will help you to control your bird and keep it safe. Once your bird has mastered basic obedience, you can begin to teach it how to hunt.

Hunting training involves teaching your bird to fly to a lure, to retrieve prey, and to perch on your glove. This is a gradual process that should be done in a safe and controlled environment.

Hunting Techniques

There are many different hunting techniques that can be used with birds of prey. The most common technique is called "still hunting." This involves perching your bird on a perch or glove and waiting for prey to come within range. Once the prey is within range, you can release your bird to attack.

Other hunting techniques include:

- **Hawking:** This involves flying your bird to a lure that is attached to a live rabbit or other small game.
- **Falconry:** This involves flying your bird to a high perch and waiting for prey to fly by.
- **Eagle hunting:** This involves using a large eagle to hunt large game such as deer and foxes.

The best hunting technique for you will depend on the type of prey you are interested in hunting and the terrain you are hunting in.

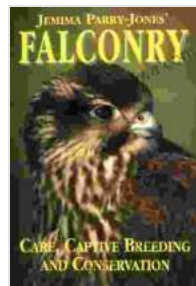
Equipment

In addition to a bird of prey, you will need some basic equipment to go falconry. This equipment includes:

- **A glove:** This is worn on your hand to protect it from your bird's talons.
- **A perch:** This is used to hold your bird when it is not hunting.
- **A lure:** This is used to train your bird to fly to you.
- **A hood:** This is used to cover your bird's head when it is not hunting.
- **A leash:** This is used to keep your bird from flying away when it is not hunting.

You may also need additional equipment depending on the hunting technique you are using. For example, if you are using a hawk to hunt rabbits, you will need a rabbit lure. If you are using an eagle to hunt deer, you will need a deer lure.

Falconry is a challenging and rewarding sport that can be enjoyed by people of all ages. If you are interested in learning more about falconry, I encourage you to read this book. It is a comprehensive guide that covers everything you need to know to get started.



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