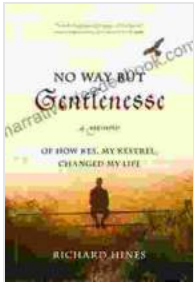


# Memoir of How Kes, My Kestrel, Changed My Life



## No Way But Gentleness: A Memoir of How Kes, My Kestrel, Changed My Life by Laura England

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 978 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 291 pages
Lending	: Enabled



In the tapestry of life, our paths often intertwine with those of unexpected beings, leading to profound transformations that shape our very existence. For me, that pivotal encounter came in the form of a wild kestrel, a small but formidable raptor with piercing eyes and a spirit that soared beyond its physical stature.

I first laid eyes on Kes, then a tiny, helpless fledgling, as he lay injured and alone on the unforgiving asphalt. His piercing gaze met mine, a silent plea for compassion amidst the urban jungle. Despite my lack of experience with birds, something within me stirred, an inexplicable connection that drew me into his fragile world.

With trembling hands, I gently scooped Kes into my care, unaware of the unyielding bond that would soon blossom between us. As I nursed him back to health, I delved into the intricate world of falconry, learning the ancient art of training and flying these magnificent creatures. Kes, with his innate intelligence and indomitable spirit, became my constant companion, soaring through the skies above our home with effortless grace.

Our daily flights together were not merely exercises in bird handling; they were profound spiritual experiences. As Kes soared high above the mundane world, I felt a sense of liberation and connection to the natural realm. His keen senses, honed by millennia of evolution, revealed a hidden world of beauty and wonder that had long eluded me.

Kes's presence in my life extended far beyond our exhilarating flights. He became a constant source of comfort and healing during a particularly challenging period in my life. As I grappled with personal setbacks and emotional turmoil, Kes's unwavering presence served as a beacon of hope and resilience.

His gentle gaze seemed to penetrate the depths of my soul, offering silent reassurance that even amidst life's storms, there was always a glimmer of light. Kes taught me the importance of embracing the present moment, of finding joy in the simplest of things, such as the rustling of leaves in the wind or the warmth of the sun on my skin.

As the seasons turned and years passed, our bond grew stronger with each shared experience. Kes became more than just a pet; he was my confidant, my healer, and my constant companion. Together, we explored

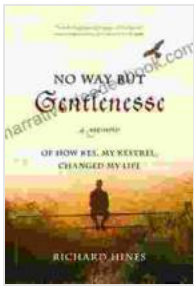
the hidden nooks and crannies of the natural world, marveling at the intricate tapestry of life that surrounded us.

However, all good things must come to an end. As the years passed, Kes's body began to show the inevitable signs of age. His once-sharp eyesight dimmed, and his once-powerful wings grew weary. Yet, his spirit remained unyielding, burning brightly until the very end.

When the time came for Kes to take his final flight, I was filled with both sorrow and gratitude. Sorrow for the loss of my beloved companion, but gratitude for the immeasurable impact he had on my life. Kes had not only taught me about the intricacies of falconry but had also imparted invaluable lessons on love, resilience, and the profound interconnectedness of all living beings.

In the wake of Kes's passing, his legacy continues to live on, not only in my heart but also in the countless lives he touched. His story has inspired others to embrace the transformative power of nature, to seek solace in the companionship of animals, and to appreciate the fragility and preciousness of life.

Today, as I look back on my journey with Kes, I am filled with an overwhelming sense of gratitude for the unexpected gift that changed the course of my life forever. Kes, my beloved kestrel, was more than just a bird; he was my teacher, my healer, and my unwavering companion. His presence in my life was a testament to the extraordinary bonds that can form between humans and animals, and I am eternally grateful for the profound impact he had on my soul.



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