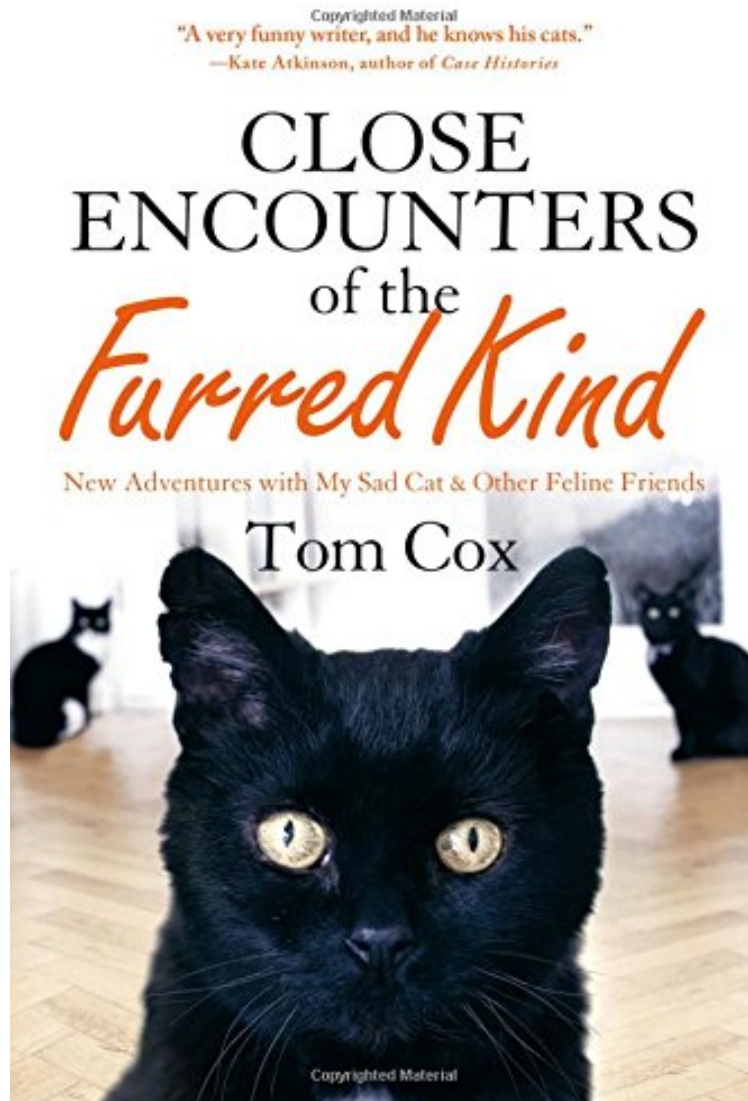


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Close Encounters of the Furred Kind: New Adventures with My Sad Cat Other Feline Friends

Tom Cox

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Tom Cox : Close Encounters of the Furred Kind: New Adventures with My Sad Cat Other Feline Friends
before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Close Encounters of
the Furred Kind: New Adventures with My Sad Cat Other Feline Friends:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Let me tell you how much I love this book
By Laura
This book is way too short. Don't get me wrong, I'm not criticizing. If it were 1000 pages longer, it still would've been too short. It is the first book I have ever preordered for myself. Now, I am a librarian and that fact might surprise you. The stereotype is true, I read a lot. But I've never preordered a book and then waited anxiously for summer's end so that it would arrive. I was counting the weeks. Then the days. Arrive it finally did (alas where did the summer go?), and I read the book in one long sitting. I could not put it down. I just let the storytelling wash over me and take me away. Tom Cox is my favorite writer. I can't remember the last time I read a book more than once, but I've read Tom's previous book "The Good, the Bad and the Furry" numerous times. It is comfort food for my soul. So I read this book in one sitting, and I cried for the last twenty pages, partly because the writing is just so heartbreakingly beautiful, and partly because I knew the story I had waited for was ending. Just like summer, it would be over. You can feel the writing start to become a bit quieter and even more meditative. On page 230 the tense changes from past to present with a simple sentence: "It's spring now..." We are suddenly in real time and Tom is giving us a little shake, warning perhaps that the dream is ending. Reality awaits. Wonderful stories, beautiful words, gorgeous landscapes, enchanting cats and people occupy the pages of this book. I am sure I will read "Close Encounters" again... and again, again. I will like its predecessor read it on days that I have had a hard time at work, or just need some extra joy in my life. I shan't really dwell on what happens on page 193. It shocked me and made me sob so hard my cockatiel got worried (not my cats, they would never worry unless it involved food -- a lack thereof). I had to take a short break to recover and center myself, but then I read on. I read about The Bear, Roscoe, Ralph and Shipley. I read about Tom and his friends and his adventures. I read about George. I let them all wash over me on a warm fall day as the afternoon changed to a cool Colorado night, a slightly less than full Sturgeon Moon rising. And so there we have it. And you must read it, just like you must read our author's other books. Here we have another perfect book by Tom Cox. Perfect except 1000 pages too short and not nearly enough photos of the cats (especially The Bear, but Roscoe, too. And George. And Ralph. And Shipley). If what I believe is true, and our critters are all reflections back on us of how we treat them, and how we treat each other, and how we treat this precious blue marbled planet of ours, then Tom Cox is a good man indeed. I know this because his cats are glorious. I am so glad to have spent these last few hours with them. Rock on, dudes and dudette. Rock on.
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Rest in peace sweet friend.
By Nicole G.
It seems a small thing to read about the lives of four (at times more) cats living out their lives in the British countryside from the perspective of their human caretaker and companion. However, Tom Cox always manages to tell the everyday stories of his and his pets' lives in such a way that is at times humorous, poetic, touching, and bittersweet. I suspect many people might pick up these books expecting a lighthearted read about cats, perhaps pandering to a certain demographic. But that is not the case at all. Although I am an enormous animal lover (and owner of four cats myself), what initially drew me to these books is not what keeps me coming back. It is the full spectrum of emotion that Tom's writing about his animal companions invokes, along with the touching insights into life and death and the beauty to be found in each. I encourage anyone who enjoys this book to look into the others in the series, and visit Tom's blog. And a very special thank you to The Bear, for touching so many hearts with your kind eyes and gentle soul over the years. Rest in peace sweet friend.
4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Long Live The Bear (and Shipley and Ralph and Roscoe) - oh, and Tom.
By NoFoLaura
Can't decide if I love Tom Cox or The Bear more. Or Tom's parents. If you just want to feel great and human read this book. Read all of his books. I am only ever sad that they're not longer.

Close Encounters of the Furred Kind is the follow-up to the Sunday Times Top Ten Bestseller The Good, The Bad, and the Furry. Like The Good, The Bad, and the Furry, it tells the story of Tom Cox's life with his charismatic cats-- The Bear, Shipley, Ralph, and recent recruit Roscoe. Close Encounters of the Furred Kind begins with a long, emotional goodbye to Norfolk, and continues with another amazing new lease on life for The Bear, the Benjamin Button of the cat world, among the bluebells and verdant hedgerows of Devon. Readers who became attached to The Bear's magical, owlish persona during his previous adventures will become more so here as he proves, once again, that he's a cat with endless secrets and significantly more than nine lives.

"Another charming and irresistible book from a master cat lover." ?Feathered Quill Book s"
Cox's prose about his furry family are what makes his memoir more endearing than a mere repackaging of his cats' best Twitter material, even to a dog person like me." ?Maris Kreizman, the Los Angeles Times
"Poignant, funny, and thoughtful, reading Cox is like receiving a letter from your best overseas friend, just the right blend of amusing anecdote and personal update. His latest, Close Encounters Of The Furred Kind, is just as indelibly charming as the rest of his output, a mix between All Creatures Great And Small and David Sedaris." ?The A.V. Club
"This delightful book will make you smile and often laugh out loud, and you'll probably recognize yourself and some of the cats who have shared your life in the pages." ?The Conscious Cat
"Made me laugh out loud." ?David Sedaris
"Certain to have you in stitches." ?The Daily Mail
"Tom Cox loves cats and he's not afraid to show it." ?Vicky Halls, author of Cat Confidential
"Tom Cox is a very funny cat addict. I laughed out loud." ?Celia Haddon author of Cats Behaving Badly
About the Author
TOM COX has a monthly column in the Guardian's Life and Style section, called The 21st Century Yokel. He also has regular slots in

Golf International magazine, Your Cat magazine, and reviews books for several newspapers. He lives in Norfolk, England. He is the author of *The Good, the Bad, and the Furry*.