

# What it's like to be a bat

Hi, my name is Fred. I am a bat. I live under the roof of a local church.

**Thanks for doing this interview, Fred.**

You are welcome, thanks for coming in in the middle of the night.

**Of course. Do you ever go out during the day?**

Very rarely, I try to avoid that. I used to do it more in my youth. But at my age, I mostly stay at home.

**How old are you, if you don't mind me asking?**

I am 12 years old.

**Is that a lot?**

It's getting up there. I am definitely beyond my prime. Makes one think. Have I lived a good life? Have I done what I was meant to do? Have I seen everything I wanted to see?

**What have you seen?**

Mostly the church I live in and the surrounding area. Didn't see it the way you see it, though. My eyes are weak, I see with my ears. I make sounds and wait for them to come back to me. Sometimes they don't. I can only see things that are close. And everything I see is a reflection of myself. Do you know what I mean?

**I think I do. Do you ever see any other animals? What is your social life like?**

It's ok, I can't complain. I have a few friends living with me at the moment. There is a cat living down the street. Some rats, but I avoid those. Sometimes I stay up during the day to watch the mass. Sometimes people bring dogs, but they get restless fast and have to leave. But people stay in the church for hours without moving. Maybe that's what they do recharge and conserve energy instead of hanging upside down.

**Do you ever wish you were a cuter, more domestic animal like a dog or a cat?**

Haven't thought about it that much. At the end of the day, you have to be what you are. I don't imagine thinking about alternate lives would be make me much happier. Besides, some people like bats.

**Sure. Have you seen any Batman movies?**

No, but I have heard of them. Apparently there is a trilogy starring Christian Bale that's really good, but the new ones are much worse. I learned that from a parrot. He lives in a cinema down the road.

