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How to Become Extinct

By Will CUPPY. Illustrated by William Steig

David R. Godine, 2008. Soft cover. Book Condition: New. 1st Edition. 128pp Illustrated. [In stock in Australia, for immediate delivery] In these 40 brief essays, the perennially perturbed Will Cuppy turns his unflinching attention on those members of the animal kingdom whose habits are disagreeable, whose appearances are repellent, and whose continued existence is not necessarily a foregone conclusion. He is not - decidedly not - without reason. (The pike is pretty nasty as fish go, don't you agree?) And while Cuppy may frequently leave in his wake more questions than answers, we surely owe him a debt of gratitude for at least asking. After all, someone has to consider the distinctions between Stoats and Ermines, or why the Age of Reptiles simply had to come to an end. And if his take on the Giant Ground Sloth is less than flattering, who are we to quibble? And grateful we are, if only for the author's flawless observations: the carp'sfalciform pharyngeal teeth'; a fish that sings through its glenoid cavity'; M. Danois, who is seventy-two times as smart as the average Tunny'. No other writer of our ken could pinpoint the colouring of the Common Viper as gray, greenish, yellowish brown, reddish, or...



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