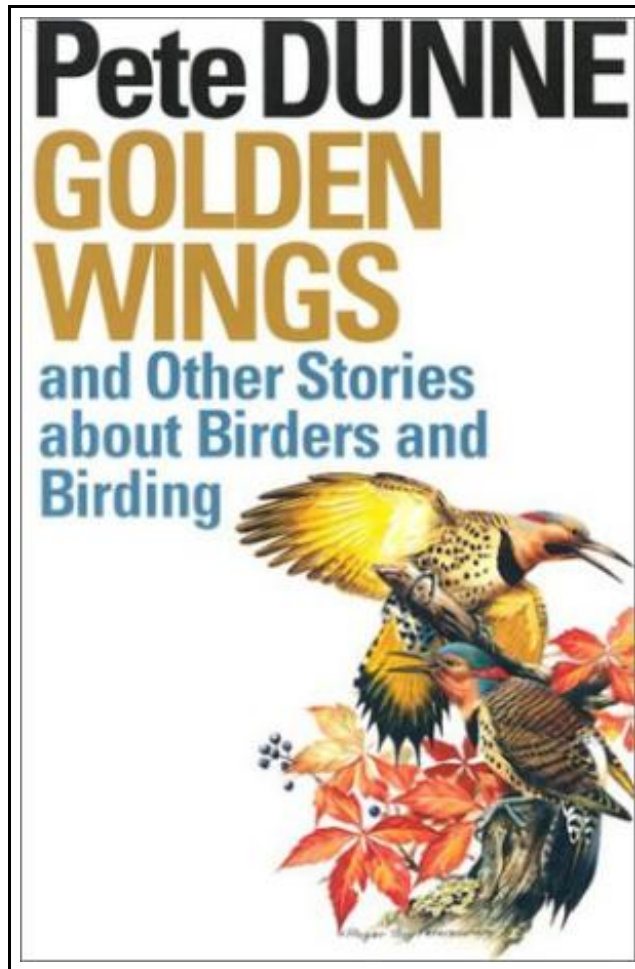


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*(Dr. Kayden Gerlach)*

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University of Texas Press, United States, 2003. Paperback. Condition: New. New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Dubbed the Bard of America s Bird-Watchers by the Wall Street Journal, Pete Dunne knows birders and birding-instinctively and completely. He understands the compulsion that drives other birders to go out at first light, whatever the weather, for a chance to maybe, just maybe, glimpse that rare migrant that someone might have spotted in a patch of woods the day before yesterday. And yet, he also knows how . . . well . . . strange the birding obsession becomes when viewed through the eyes of a nonbirder. His dual perspective-totally engrossed in birding, yet still aware of the odd birdness of some birders-makes reading his essays a pure pleasure whether you pursue the feather quest or not. This book collects forty-one of Dunne s recent essays, drawn from his columns in Living Bird, Wild Bird News, the New Jersey Sunday section of the New York Times, Birder s World, and other publications. Written with his signature wit and insight, they cover everything from a moment of awed communion with a Wandering Albatross ( the most beautiful thing I d ever seen ) to Dunne s imagined perfect bird ( The Perfect Bird is the size of a turkey, has the wingspan of an eagle, the legs of a crane, the feet of a moorhen, and the talons of a great horned owl. It eats kudzu, surplus zucchini, feral cats, and has been known to predate upon homeowners who fire up their lawn mowers before 7:00 A.M. on the weekend. ). The title essay pays whimsical, yet heartfelt tribute to Dunne s mentor, the late birding legend Roger Tory Peterson.



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