

Trish O’Kane is an accidental ornithologist. In her nearly two decades writing about justice as an investigative journalist, she’d never paid attention to nature. But then Hurricane Katrina destroyed her New Orleans home, sending her into an emotional tailspin.

Enter a scrappy cast of feathered characters—first a cardinal, urban parrots, and sparrows, then a catbird, owls, a bittern, and a woodcock—that cheered her up and showed her a new path. Inspired, O’Kane moved to Madison, Wisconsin, to pursue an environmental studies PhD. There she became a full-on bird obsessive—logging hours in a stunningly biodiverse urban park, filling field notebooks with bird doings and dramas, and teaching ornithology to college students and middle-school kids.

When Warner Park—her daily birdwatching haven—was threatened with development, O’Kane and her neighbors mustered a mighty murmuration of nature lovers, young and old, to save the birds’ homes. Through their efforts, she learned that once you get outside and look around, you’re likely to fall in love with a furred or feathered creature—and find a flock of your own.

In *Birding to Change the World*, O’Kane details the astonishing science of bird life, from migration and parenting to the territorial defense strategies that influenced her own activism. A warm and compelling weave of science and social engagement, this is the story of an improbable band of bird lovers who saved their park. And it is a blueprint for muscular citizenship, powered by joy.

Trish O’Kane is a writer and a senior lecturer in environmental justice at the University of Vermont, where avians are her teaching assistants. A former human rights journalist in Central America and the Deep South, she has written for the *New York Times*, *Time*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. She lives in Burlington, Vermont, with her writer-husband, their dog, and three chickens.

Read by Cheryl Smith



Runtime: 13h. 54m. • Unabridged

Copyright © 2024 by Trish O’Kane. © & © 2024 HarperCollins Publishers. Jacket illustration and design by Vivian Lopez Rowe. [www.harperaudio.com](http://www.harperaudio.com)



© 2024 Playaway. Patented.  
All rights reserved.  
31999 Aurora Road, Solon, OH 44139 USA  
Designed in Ohio. Made in China.  
[www.playaway.com](http://www.playaway.com)

The Playaway format is recommended for children ages 5 and up.



AUDIO

Birding to Change the World



Trish O’Kane

Adult



PLAYAWAY  
THE ALL-IN-ONE AUDIOBOOK

