Does Killing a Mortal Matter If Another Mortal is Born?

See inside.
For The Birds: From Exploitation to Liberation

“Karen Davis, founder of United Poultry Concerns, is a tireless activist for birds and all animals who are abused and exploited. Her latest book, FOR THE BIRDS, is a collection of essays that expose the horrific truths of raising animals for food, along with beautiful and tender stories about individual birds she has come to know and love over the years.” – Caryn Hartglass, REAL – Responsible Eating & Living, 5-Star Amazon Review

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For The Birds: From Exploitation to Liberation

KAREN DAVIS, PH.D.

FOR THE BIRDS
From Exploitation to Liberation

Essays on Chickens, Turkeys, and Other Domesticated Fowl

Foreword by Robert Grillo
Afterword by Patrice Jones

Volume 30, Number 3

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ANIMAL AGRICULTURE is IMMORAL: an anthology

Sailesh Rao, Editor
Cover design by Suzanne King
A Climate Healers Publication (2020)

Dedicated to all of the animals with whom we share this beautiful planet, and to all of the children who will inherit the consequences of our choices.

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Animal Agriculture is Immoral includes two contributions from United Poultry Concerns: “Employing Euphemism to Falsify the Fate of Farmed Animals,” by UPC President Karen Davis, PhD; and “A New Normal: The Anti-Speciesism Imperative in the Post Covid-19 World,” by UPC Projects Manager Hope Bohanec.

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Can Killing an Animal Be Compensated For by the Creation of a New Animal?

By Karen Davis, PhD, President of United Poultry Concerns

This article was first published on the Animals 24-7 Website, November 6, 2020.

There’s a line of thought in moral philosophy that says “yes,” as long as the animal lived a pleasant life and the method used to kill the animal is humane — quick and painless. This is not about euthanasia, which means the merciful killing of a creature in irremediable misery. The other thought, by contrast, concerns killing an animal, not for the animal’s sake, but as part of a human enterprise or circumstance in which the animal is involved, but nonthreateningly, so that self-defense is not an issue. In this line of thought, the animal and his or her death are subsumed within a larger picture, purpose or project in which the animal as an individual is deemed incidental and replaceable in the overall scheme of things.

For example, William Howitt, in The Rural Life of England, defended sport hunting against charges of cruelty as follows:

The pleasure is in the pursuit of an object, and the art and activity in which a wild creature is captured, and in all those concomitants of pleasant scenery and pleasant seasons that enter into the enjoyment of rural sports; — the suffering is only the casual adjunct . . . the momentary pang of a creature, which forms but one atom in a living series.

Similarly, Washington Post columnist Ellen Goodman wrote in “Quality Time” that even though animal products were extremely important to her family’s enjoyment of Thanksgiving, it wasn’t “really” the turkey, chicken fat, and eggs she drooled over that drew them together. Rather, “it is really our appetite for togetherness that will bring us to the Thanksgiving table.” The birds who suffered and died for this get-together were merely the “casual adjuncts” of the pleasurable family gathering.

The absorption of animals into a human enterprise in which they are viscerally featured while simultaneously conceived of as not really there, not really important, not really themselves, or even complicit — be
the enterprise religion, eating, cooking, laboratory experimentation, entertainment, or whatever – recurs thematically throughout human history. To this day, according to the scholar Basant K. Lal, an animal ritually sacrificed by Hindus “is not considered an animal” but is instead “a symbol of those powers for which the sacrificial ritual stands.” The sacrificed animals are incidental and replaceable; the symbol for which they stand is essential and enduring.

Absorbed into these human-centered worlds of thought and behavior, the animals virtually disappear, apart from how they are used. Our use becomes their ontology – “this is what they are” – and their teleology – “this is what they were made for.” Such maneuvering allows us to hurt and kill animals casually in many circumstances, with little or no compunction or care.

Why Does Killing Matter, If Another Mortal Is Born?

The predilection for conceiving nonhuman animals as incidental and replaceable creatures appears in an inquiry posed by utilitarian philosopher Peter Singer, whose 1975 book *Animal Liberation*, revised in 1990, helped launch the modern animal advocacy movement. It goes like this: *As long as the same amount of pleasure is maintained in the world, why is the killing of a dog or any other nonhuman animal a moral problem or a loss, if a new animal replaces the old one?*

In J. M. Coetzee’s collection of essays, *The Lives of Animals*, Singer constructs a dialogue with his daughter about their companion dog, Max, to deliberate the matter. He asks what is wrong with painlessly killing Max as long as Max is replaced by a puppy. He tells her, “Our distress is a *side effect* of the killing, not something that makes it wrong in itself.” This statement suggests that Max likewise is only a “side effect” of his own demise, including the betrayal of those he trusted.

In *Animal Liberation* (1990 edition), Singer proposes that nonhuman animals – who because in his view they “cannot grasp” that they have “a life in the sense that requires an understanding of what it is to exist over a period of time” – are therefore incidental and replaceable creatures whose deaths are no big deal as long as the amount of pleasure embodied in the original animal is maintained in the new form of pleasurable animal life:

> [I]n the absence of some form of mental continuity, it is not easy to explain why the loss to the animal killed is not, from an impartial point of view, made good by the creation of a new animal, who will lead an equally pleasant life.

It isn’t the animal’s point of view that counts here – “the loss to the animal killed”; but rather the “impartial point of view” from which standpoint the utilitarian philosopher casts an emotionless eye.

Nullifying the Living Creature

While conceding that killing a sentient creature could be “a kind of wrong that cannot be made good by creating a new creature,” Singer makes this concession less with conviction than with the intent to show that he’s aware of philosophic alternatives to the view he’s advancing, a view that essentially nullifies the living creature and reifies pleasure versus pain as more “real” and important by comparison.

One may ask how the view of animals as replaceable embodiments of pleasure and pain differs from the view of exploiters. For these utilitarians, the animals they exploit are replaceable, interchangeable units of production. Farmers speak of “replacement” cows, sows, hens. The individuality of these animals is not an issue. Free from any onus of acknowledgement of the flesh and blood creatures in and of themselves, of each one’s one and only life, agribusiness representatives can glibly glide into abstract discourse about the “welfare” they claim their units of production are receiving, including “humane” slaughter. What is wrong with killing an animal as long as the killing is “humane” and the continuity of “welfare” is maintained?

If exploiters are looking outside their profession for “justification,” Singer’s argument for dismissing
the intrinsic worth of individual animals, including an animal’s right not to be killed merely to satisfy human desires, provides it.

Philosophy or Sophistry?

Singer’s own consumption and approval of “free-range” eggs makes sense within this construct. In a recent interview, Singer said he eats bivalves like mussels and clams because he believes they lack the capacity to suffer. He eats “free-range” eggs as long as he feels satisfied that the hens who laid them were “raised in suitable conditions and humanely killed.” The interviewer thereupon notes “the struggles in our family, finding eggs that we are confident come from chickens who were well-treated.”

To which Singer replies, “Yes, that’s right,” and proceeds to contrast the relative ease of getting “genuinely free-range eggs” in his home country of Australia with the difficulty “in the big American cities” where “it isn’t always that easy to sort out which are labeled free range, but actually kept in big warehouses with small patches where they go outside.” (Notice how the hens and their eggs are conflated in this reply.)

The 1975 edition of Animal Liberation already opened the door to “free-range” eggs. Since then, the idea of ethical alternatives to industrial animal production has become a common excuse for consuming animal products, even pulling some former vegans back into the carnage. Ethical objections to free-range eggs are said to be “relatively minor,” even though free-range hens are killed when they no longer lay enough eggs to be considered worth keeping. The 1990 edition of Animal Liberation further notes the fact that the killing of male chicks is standard industry practice, free-range or otherwise.

Notwithstanding, Singer holds that ethical objections to free-range eggs are “very much less” than objections to intensively-produced eggs and other animal products, and that the question is “whether the pleasant lives of the hens (plus the benefits to us of the eggs) are sufficient to outweigh the killing that is a part of the system. One’s answer to that will depend on one’s view about killing, as distinct from the infliction of suffering.”

Killing is NOT Distinct from the Infliction of Suffering

This distinction is false. As I discuss in my book The Holocaust and the Henmaid’s Tale: A Case for Comparing Atrocities, killing is not distinct from the infliction of suffering. The word suffering is not limited to sensations of hurt and pain. Suffering encompasses the bearing of a wound or a trauma whether consciously experienced by the injured individual or not. It is possible to harm an individual in a way that is technically or temporarily painless, but it is not possible to do so in a way that will avoid causing the individual to suffer.
To kill an animal is therefore to inflict the ultimate injury on that animal. If, in discussions of this topic, concepts such as “humane slaughter” were placed in the category of humane harm, performed not for the sake of the animal, as in a surgical procedure to remove a tumor, but solely for the benefit of the exploiter, then the impertinence of many seemingly reasonable proposals involving the use of animals would be clear.

Free-Range Rhetoric versus “Free-Range” Reality

Finally, the distinction between “genuinely free-range eggs” in Australia and eggs so labeled in the United States is disingenuous. To confirm this, I emailed decades-long farmed animal activist, Patty Mark, who as the founder of Animal Liberation Victoria, developed the strategy of Open Rescue in Australia and introduced this strategy – in which the rescuers document the farmed-animal abuse and publicly identify themselves instead of acting anonymously – to U.S. activists at our United Poultry Concerns Direct Action for Animals Forum, June 26-27, 1999.

Patty wrote back to me on October 31, 2020: “We don’t have some mythical egg industry here in Australia where all the male counterparts of so-called free-range hens live magical lives roaming the hillsides crowing with joy. And while hens can lay eggs for most of their natural lifespans of 8-10 years, commercialized free-range hens are killed at 18 months to 2 years of age. And then there are the parent birds of the ‘free-range’ hens who are kept in horrible conditions to produce the fertilised eggs/chicks for all types of egg production.”

“Obscuring the Face of the Other”

It is often the case in anti-factory farming discourse that the detailed descriptions of standard industrial farming practices are not matched by an equally scrupulous description of so-called alternative production practices – practices and conditions that undercover investigations have often found to be as callous and cruel as the “factory-farming” of which they are, in fact, extensions – debeaking, culling by cervical dislocation, and more. The reality is that the cruelest, most brutal and atrocious industrial farming conditions and practices are the standard by which “a good life” and “humane killing” of chickens and other farmed animals are measured.

The effort to get people to care about animals, and particularly about farmed animals beyond a mere nod of agreement about “humane” treatment, is daunting. All of us working on behalf of animals and animal liberation are trying to figure out how to succeed. I believe we increase our hurtfulness toward animals by contending that they, in the fullness of their own being, matter less, or somehow exist less, than the amount of pleasure or pain they embody and magically transfer upon their death to other embodiments.

Animal-based rituals, ranging from religious to secular, involve a rhetorical and conceptual transformation of the animals into a manifestation of something else. They are, in the words of Carol J. Adams explaining her concept of the absent referent, “transmuted into a metaphor for someone else’s existence or fate” without ever being acknowledged in their own right. “Obscuring the face of the other,” wrote Maxwell Schnurer in his essay “At the Gates of Hell,” is “vital to the reduction of living beings to objects upon whom atrocities can be heaped.”

Reducing an animal, such as Max the dog, to a replaceable unit of pleasure or pain is yet another way we have of degrading animals in our own minds so that just about any abuse, including killing them for reasons unrelated to euthanasia or self-defense, can be rationalized as both humane and inconsequential. This line of thought undermines animal liberation, including our own. – Karen Davis
The Lawsuit

In the previous issue of Poultry Press, we announced the filing of a new motion in July by Alliance attorney Nora Constance Marino asking the New York Supreme Court (the lowest of the three courts in NY State) to reconsider its 2015 decision in view of the Covid-19 virus, a global zoonotic disease believed to have been spawned by human interaction with animals suffering in live animal markets in China.

Marino presented the court with “new evidence” that the ritual of Kaporos, in which thousands of chickens are slaughtered by Hasidic practitioners each fall on the streets of Brooklyn and elsewhere, increases the health risks to citizens. On September 24, 2020, Marino reported, “Unfortunately the judge refused to sign my proposed order. This means that my motion to renew was never heard before the court. She refused to hear it. I have filed a notice of appeal but there’s no way I could get anything done for this year. It’s terrible and heartbreaking and shocking that the city is allowing the Kaporos ritual to go on this year.”

The Ritual and the Rescue

The Kaporos ritual was performed this year in late September. The good news is that the Alliance team rescued 510 chickens – the most ever! We gratefully received a matching gift of $6,500 for our $13,000 Kaporos chicken rescue operation in New York City, which began officially Sept. 21st and continued through the month until every suffering chicken we found crated or abandoned in the streets was saved. Our team secured homes for all of the Kaporos survivors this year, and transported them as far west as Utah and as far east as Vermont. Our team is made up of rescuers and caregivers with up to 7 years’ experience specifically rescuing NYC Kaporos chickens.

Here is what we did in September & October:

- **Veterinary care for the most compromised birds.** We managed these costs by arranging discounts with qualified avian veterinarians, and by having experienced caregivers providing broad medical care free of charge to every bird. Some birds had compound fractures and severe infections requiring multiple costly veterinary visits.

- **Transport of the survivors all over the U.S.!** While the drivers volunteered their time, we covered the basic costs of gas and occasional rental of a larger vehicle.

- **Sanctuary stipends.** We provided stipends to smaller sanctuaries, to help them more comfortably transition the birds into their care.

- **Medical and care supplies for our Triage center and two foster houses.** Every rescued bird required medication, food, water, and supplements to help them recuperate from their traumatic lives, first at a factory farm and then in the streets of NYC. Some birds required bandaging and wound care.

– Jill Carnegie, Campaign Strategist, Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos

Jill Carnegie with the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos carries a rescued Kaporos rooster to the triage.
Here are some of the survivors who will now spend the rest of their lives at Tamerlaine Sanctuary. Many have a long road to recovery ahead of them but we will be there every step of the way!

This year was the most successful rescue to date! Thank you to The Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos and United Poultry Concerns who make these rescues possible every year!

With love and gratitude,
Gabrielle Stubbert and Peter Nussbaum
Cofounders, Tamerlaine Sanctuary & Preserve
Montague, New Jersey

Kaporos photos by UNPARALLELED SUFFERING
The pain of losing them is the price we pay for the privilege of knowing them and sharing their lives . . .

We thank those people who have contributed to our work with recent donations In Loving Memory and in Honor and Appreciation of the following beloved family members and friends, both those who have passed away and those who are with us.

Dear UPC, my donation is in honor of your 30 years of advocating for the humane treatment of all poultry. I applaud your steely courage & determination, as well as your fierce continuing compassion & work. Let us continue the fight together. I am honored to stand with you and all the birds. – Aaron Rubin

My gift is in honor of our precious little Fireball, who lit up our lives for a very short 14 ½ months. Then he was gone, and a light went out. We believe he had Marek’s disease [an infectious immunosuppressive cancer caused by a virus], and I had him put to sleep on June 10th when he could no longer stand and had stopped eating. No words can describe what he meant to us. I can only say that he left a great empty hole that can’t be filled. – Barbara Moffit

My gift is my memorial to my mother, Ruth Thomas, who taught me from babyhood to love, rescue, and respect all animals. At 79, I am now many years of rescue. – Joan Martin

We would love to donate in memory of our sweet little chicken companion, who passed away close to one year ago. Sun-Tangerine, aka SunTange, was a beautiful, smart, sprightly, and sensitive chicken. She was the smallest of her 4 sisters, whom we adopted when they were about 5 years old. She lived until she was 10ish. SunTange enjoyed her own special treat stash we supplied her and her sisters with daily. She would look for a “coast is clear” signal to go to her own little protected area to enjoy her treats. We miss her so. – David & Cheryl Hopkins

Sun-Tangerine

My donation is in loving memory of my sister, Miffi Bedrick. – Jane Bedrick

In honor of Chicken. I’m sorry. Love, Maple. – Samuel Gaines

In memory of Olivia, my sweet little hen. – Victoria Figurelli

My donation is in honor of Vinny. – Holly Pearson
Please accept my donation for your memory page in loving memory of Ghost, my sweet cat, who crossed the rainbow bridge. Mom loved you so much, buddy. – Gail Wilson

Our donation is in honor of “Peace Kitty,” who was cared for by Victoria Hart until he passed away recently. – JoAnn Farb & family

My donation to the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos is in honor of Luke Skolkin. – Jennifer Krebs

For the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos in memory of Shimon Shuchat. – Melissa Flower

For the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos in memory of Shimon Shuchat. – Rebecca Pou

In memory of Shimon Shuchat and for the Alliance to End Chickens as Kaporos. – Diane Vogel

My donation is in honor of Veda Stram’s Birthday. – Lisa Qualls

In honor of Nero, Fredericka, Julie, Nathaniel, Leonard, and Bertha, remembered forever and sadly missed. – Paul Deane

My gift is in honor of All God’s Creatures. – Brien Comerford

Be Kind to Turkeys – Go Vegan, Miami!

Our beautiful bus shelter posters urge compassionate holidays in 30 separate locations in Miami, Florida through November 2020. Posted & maintained by Clear Channel Outdoor for $30,000.

Your generous tax-deductible donations enable us to post more of these eye-catching posters in U.S. cities!
Chickens and other small animals are shipped from hatcheries and breeders through the U.S. Postal Service by ground delivery and airmail all the time. Recent postal service changes have caused many thousands more baby chicks to suffer and die in transit.

Newborn chicks die “quietly” in postal service deliveries, and often a box of chicks will sit in a local Post Office and never be picked up by the buyer. Many self-styled small farms get their “local” chicks entirely through the mail. They lobby Congress vigorously to protect this practice. Male chicks the hatchery industry calls “packers” are frequently stuffed into boxes of baby hens. Otherwise, the hatchery destroys them.

Shipment of live birds and other animals through the Postal Service is one of the many hidden cruelties inflicted on chickens and other animals. School-hatching projects, 4-H, cockfighters, hunting-dog trainers, backyard chicken-keepers, “free-range” farmers and other interests view the Postal Service, in the words of one farmer, as the “very lifeblood” of their business.

Airmailing baby chicks from factory-farm hatcheries to buyers is cheap, since the birds are shipped like luggage, with no weather protection or other comforts afforded to people’s pets when in transit.

Free Ways to Help United Poultry Concerns Raise Much-Needed Funds

Please make free fundraising a part of your online routine

Every time you shop at any of 1600+ online stores in the iGive network, a portion of the money you spend benefits United Poultry Concerns. It’s a free service, and you’ll never pay more when you reach a store through iGive. In fact, smart shoppers will enjoy iGive’s repository of coupons, free shipping deals, and sales. To get started, just create your free iGive account. And when you search the web, do it through iSearchiGive.com where each search means a penny (or more!) for our cause!

Start iGiving at: www.iGive.com/UPC and help UPC get every possible donation when you shop or search online!
Urge the United States Postal Service to stop shipping live birds and other small animals as “perishable matter” to customers. If you are in a different country, contact your own country’s postal service with this appeal. Please educate people about the suffering inflicted on fragile birds and others in being shipped as ground mail and airmail. This is one of the many vital reasons to be vegan.

Sample message to Mr. Dilley:

Dear Mr. Dilley,

I’m writing today to urge the USPS to end all live animal shipments immediately. Animals suffer from extreme temperatures and lack of food and water at best, and they die a slow, agonizing death at worst. The USPS should not be in the business of shipping baby chicks or any live animals as mail.

Please stop the suffering and end live animal shipments!

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your response.

[YOUR NAME & ADDRESS]

Write directly to the Postmaster General:

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L’Enfant Plaza West, SW
Washington, DC 20260

Thank You for Taking Action!

What Can I Do?

Email and call Thad Dilley, Manager of Public Affairs
202-268-2194, thad.e.dilley@usps.gov

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Please remember United Poultry Concerns through a provision in your will. Please consider an enduring gift of behalf of the birds.

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Karen & Mr. Frizzle ©2008 Davida G. Breier
Slaughterhouse Workers, Farmed Animals, and Animal Advocates: Can There Be Justice For All?

By Karen Davis, PhD, President of United Poultry Concerns

This article was first published on the Animals 24-7 Website, July 28, 2020.

“It really does something to your mind when you stand there in all that blood, killing so many times, over and over again.”
– Virgil Butler, former Tyson chicken slaughterhouse employee

If I see or hear the word “meatpacking” one more time, I will throw up. Ditto for “poultry processing” and the entire echo chamber designed to shield us from responsibility for the worst workplaces on Earth. Contrary to the rhetoric, slaughterhouse work is not essential employment. Nothing good – or “essential” – happens on the way to the slaughterhouse, inside a slaughterhouse, or as a result of what comes out of it.

When animal advocates try to help people understand what chickens, turkeys, and other animals are being put through to turn them into food, a not uncommon response is something like, “Well, I’m sorry for the animals, but I care more about people.”

This reaction allows us to politely point out that caring about human beings is a sufficient reason of itself to be vegan, a moral imperative if we really care. It is often noted that no one but a sociopath or...
a sadist – and maybe a masochist – wants to work in a slaughterhouse. But if you are none of these things starting out, you can find yourself moving in a pathological direction in the course of your occupation.

Those who want to keep “aliens” out of the country are content to let – or should we say make – these same individuals suffer to “put food on the table.” If all slaughterhouse workers suddenly quit, would diehard meat eaters who are too “good” to be “meatpackers” report to the kill floor themselves?

In most cases, probably not. More likely, if suddenly there were no slaughterhouse workers, people would then be motivated – “forced” – to check out the delectable vegan “animal” products and menu items, which would grow rapidly in abundance and availability to meet the demand. Once the disgruntled phase passed, most people would marvel that they ever worried about not having dead meat to put in their mouth.

It is vital for animal rights advocates to include in our public outreach a reminder of the plight of the human beings who suffer mentally and physically killing animals for a living. “Caring about humans” opens a door for us to show how being vegan expresses the care that we have for these people as well as for the animals.

By the same token, United Poultry Concerns disagrees that animal advocates should participate in efforts to make it more comfortable, lucrative, and “dignified” for people to work in a slaughterhouse. Making it easier for people to terrorize, injure, and kill animals, calling slaughterers “meatpackers” and “processors,” is not our task.

I do not mean to minimize or dismiss the horrible working conditions for slaughterhouse workers. It isn’t only the physical conditions. Virgil Butler’s partner, Laura Alexander, wrote of her experience when she asked Virgil to take her to where he hung and slaughtered chickens all night at Tyson, in Arkansas: “It was like this wave – this wall – of negative energy hitting me in the face when we opened that door. The only thing I can even try to compare it to would be that feeling you get in places like hospitals and jails, where there is suffering and death, dread and fear. Take that feeling and magnify it by at least 10 and you will have maybe an inkling of what I felt at the door of that room that day. I could not leave fast enough.”

A thought that haunts me in making my argument is that the more horrible the conditions are for workers in a slaughter facility, the more likely they will take out their anger and frustration even more violently on the animals. Sadistic treatment of chickens, turkeys, and other animals by workers in slaughter facilities is well-documented.

Not all social justice interests are compatible. If we make an exception for jobs and people whose murder victims are pigs and cows and chickens and turkeys instead of humans, are we not betraying our mission to liberate our animal kin from the complacent oppression of our species? Protecting the killing of animals in an evil, inessential occupation does not benefit us. Obliterating the world’s worst occupation and building the vegan economy does. Food production will always require a workforce. There is nothing to worry about on that front. – Karen Davis
Gerald the Rose Garden Turkey Has Been Safely Relocated After Months of Worry Over His Fate

In the Fall issue of Poultry Press, we reported the plight of Gerald, a wild turkey who lived peacefully in the Morcom Rose Garden in Oakland, California for about two years until conflicts arose this past summer. The spring mating season, in which parent birds incubate, hatch, and aggressively protect their chicks, plus many more park visitors this year than usual, caused Gerald to act dangerously toward people, causing the California Department of Fish & Wildlife to intervene with a plan to kill Gerald on June 22nd.

Fortunately, park visitors and neighbors, who did not want Gerald killed, clamored publicly – and successfully – for him to be relocated safely to another habitat. Their voices, amplified by more than 13,000 signatures on an online Petition, resulted in saving his life.

The following announcement was posted Oct. 24th, by Oakland activist Molly Flanagan, who led the national call to relocate Gerald to Animal Place sanctuary in Grass Valley, CA. Sadly, Fish & Wildlife rejected this option, releasing him instead into a wild area where hopefully he will thrive.

Gerald at home in the Rose Garden earlier this year.

On Friday, October 23rd, after five months holding his ground at the Oakland Rose Garden, Gerald—AKA Big Daddy or Daddy Bird—was caught unharmed, and is now making a new life for himself in an area free of human malice.

Gerald’s life had been under threat after conflicts with visitors—likely induced by stress—escalated. But because of your advocacy, the California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) reversed their decision and agreed to relocation in lieu of “euthanasia.”

We lobbied hard for Gerald to be released at Animal Place sanctuary, where he would have had a supported transition to the wild. While CDFW did not grant this, they released him to a wild area nearby where hunting is prohibited.

We acknowledge that the shock of being separated from his family and adjusting to an unfamiliar environment will undoubtedly challenge Gerald’s fortitude. However, we are hopeful that he will be able to join an existing wild turkey flock in his new habitat and, once again, be able to thrive.

Thank you for your efforts on Gerald’s behalf. Please join us now in envisioning his continued resilience moving forward. – Molly Flanagan
Written by Howard Edelstein  
Illustrated by Jessica Henderson  
Published by Who Chains You Books.  
www.whochainsyou.com

Order from Amazon or from Fish Feel.  
www.fishfeel.org

Reviewed by Karen Davis, PhD, President of United Poultry Concerns

“Today Timmy’s dad was taking him on his first fishing trip, and he was so excited.”

So begins a day that introduces many children to the lifelong “pleasure” of hooking fish in their sensitive mouths, hurling them out of the water at the end of a rod into an atmosphere in which a fish cannot breathe and who, flopping violently in the air and on the ground, is actually suffocating to death in panic and pain.

An Underwater Friend gently leads the young reader to discover the underside of this taken-for-granted experience, on which few people reflect, through the eyes of Timmy Jackens. After hooking and unhooking the fish he finally catches, “Timmy could see the panic in her eyes. He started to feel bad that he was the cause. . . .”

Luckily, Timmy has a dad who sees and cares that his son is upset. Instead of ignoring or ridiculing him, Mr. Jackens offers him the choice of throwing the fish back into the water, explaining, however, that “because of the injury and shock,” she may not survive. With this in mind, they put the injured fish in a bucket of water and take her home to their small pond, where in time she appears to recover to the point where she can be returned to the lake, “her true home.”

While in the family’s pond, the fish goes from being a generic “fish” to being Wilma, an individual who “began coming to the edge of the pond when Timmy came by.” Their friendship grows. As it does, so does Timmy’s understanding of the true meaning of “treating others as you would want to be treated,” something he’d always been taught by his mom and that now includes a fish named Wilma and, by extension, all fish.

An Underwater Friend is a much needed, engaging book for children and for adults as well. The fact that fish have feelings, families and friends of their own in their water world is still largely unappreciated by most people, though science proves it. Fishing, including recreational fishing, is still regarded in most communities – and is regularly portrayed in commercial advertising – as a wholesome, relaxing, benign activity, the very essence of a sentimental Norman Rockwell painting of a boy, his dad, and a fishing rod.

Living in rural Virginia surrounded by water, I meet not only men, but women who love to fish. Cultural and personal resistance to the idea that fishing is cruel, that a fish yanked out of the water is experiencing pain and terror and brain damage, is strong. An Underwater Friend tells the story of fishing in a way that children and adults alike can not only enjoy, but learn from. It is dedicated to Fish Feel, “the first organization devoted to promoting the recognition of fish as sentient beings deserving of respect and compassion.” – Karen Davis
Best Vegan Macaroni and Cheese Ever

Recipe #180878 from recipezaar.com

Ingredients
- 1 ½ cups plain soymilk
- 1 cup water
- ½ cup tamari or soy sauce
- 1 ½ cups nutritional yeast
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 ounces firm tofu
- 1 cup canola oil
- 1 ½ pounds macaroni noodles
- 2 teaspoons mustard (optional)

Instructions
1. Boil water in a big pot for macaroni noodles.
2. Put all other ingredients in a blender to create the cheese-like sauce.
3. Once noodles are cooked, drain and put in a baking pan and pour sauce over the noodles.
4. Bake until the top of the pasta looks slightly browned and crispy – about 15 minutes.

For more great recipes, go to www.upc-online.org/recipes!

Variation using linguini.

Photos by Liqin Cao
POSTCARDS
20 for $4.00, 40 for $7.50

“Love is Best”

“Peaceable Kingdom”

“Chickens – To Know Them is to Love Them”

“Misery is Not a Health Food”

FACT SHEETS
20 for $3.00
“Viva, the Chicken Hen / Chickens Raised for Meat”
“Jane-one tiny chicken foot”
“Starving Poultry for Profit” (forced molting)
“Poultry Slaughter: The Need for Legislation”
“The Rougher They Look, The Better They Lay” (free-range egg production)
“Intensive Poultry Production: Fouling the Environment”
“Philosophic Vegetarianism: Acting Affirmatively for Peace”
“The Rhetoric of Apology in Animal Rights”
“Providing a Good Home for Chickens”
“Chicken Talk: The Language of Chickens”
“Celebrate Easter Without Eggs”
“Chicken for Dinner: It’s Enough To Make You Sick”
“Guide to Staffing Tables: Do’s & Don’ts”
“Henny’s New Friends”
“Avoiding Burnout”
“The Life of One Battery Hen”
“Bird Flu - What You Need to Know”
“How I Learned the Truth About Eggs”

“Peeper the Turkey, a Story of Endless Love”
“Factory Farming vs. Alternative Farming: The Humane Hoax”

BROCHURES
20 for $3.00
“A Wing & A Prayer” (Kapparot ritual)
“Don’t Plants Have Feelings Too?”
“Chickens”
“The Battery Hen”
“Turkeys”
“Ostriches & Emus: Nowhere To Hide”
“Japanese Quail”
“The Use of Birds In Agricultural and Biomedical Research”
“Free-Range’ Poultry and Eggs: Not All They’re Cracked Up to Be” - New & Revised!
“Live Poultry Markets” (in English, Spanish, & Chinese)
“Chicken-Flying Contests”

LEAFLETS (FLYERS)
10 for $1.00, 25 for $2.50
“Chicken for Dinner?”
“The ‘Human’ Nature of Pigeons”
“The Truth about Feather Hair Extensions”
“Birds Suffer Horribly for Pillows & Coats”

Bumper Stickers $1 each
Don’t Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Get the Slaughterhouse out of your Kitchen.
Don’t Just Switch from Beef to Chicken: Go Vegan.

Beautiful Chicken and Turkey Buttons
$2 each. 3 for $5. 10 for $10. Any mixture.
Stick Up For Chickens • Chickens are Friends, Not Food
Turkeys are Friends, Not Food • End Chickens as Kaporos
Be Kind to Turkeys - Don’t Gobble Me

T-shirts Too Neat to Eat (Hen & Egg or Rooster) •
Give a Cluck. Go Vegan! • What Wings Are For • Available in Unisex (S, M, L, XL) or Ladies (S, M, L, XL) $20

UPC Ordering Information:
All Prices Include Postage
To order indicated items send check or money order to:
United Poultry Concerns
P.O. Box 150
Machipongo, VA 23405-0150
Or order online at upc-online.org

United Poultry Concerns • (757) 678-7875
P.O. Box 150 • Machipongo, VA 23405-0150
Prisoned Chickens, Poisoned Eggs: An Inside Look at the Modern Poultry Industry

By Karen Davis


The Holocaust and the Henmaid’s Tale: A Case for Comparing Atrocities

By Karen Davis

In this thoughtful and thought-provoking contribution to the study of animals and the Holocaust, Karen Davis makes the case that significant parallels can – and must – be drawn between the Holocaust and the institutionalized abuse of billions of animals on factory farms. “Compelling and convincing . . . this bold, brave book.” - Charles Patterson, author of Eternal Treblinka $14.95

More Than a Meal: The Turkey in History, Myth, Ritual, and Reality

By Karen Davis

Karen Davis shows how turkeys in the wild have complex lives and family units, and how they were an integral part of Native American and continental cultures and landscape before the Europeans arrived, while drawing larger conclusions about our paradoxical relationship with turkeys, all birds and other animals including other human beings. “The turkey’s historical disfigurement is starkly depicted by Karen Davis in ‘More Than a Meal.’” - The New Yorker $14.95

Instead of Chicken, Instead of Turkey: A Poultryless “Poultry” Potpourri

By Karen Davis

This delightful vegan cookbook by United Poultry Concerns features homestyle, ethnic, and exotic recipes that duplicate and convert a variety of poultry and egg dishes. Includes artwork, poems, and illuminating passages showing chickens and turkeys in an appreciative light. $14.95

Animals and Women: Feminist Theoretical Explorations Edited by Carol J. Adams & Josephine Donovan

“Karen Davis’s brilliant essay [Thinking Like a Chicken: Farm Animals and The Feminine Connection] brings together the book’s central concepts, leading to conclusions that rightly should disturb feminists and animal advocates alike.” - Review by Deborah Tanzer, Ph.D. in The Animals’ Agenda. $16.95

The Ultimate Betrayal: Is There Happy Meat?

By Hope Bohanec

The Ultimate Betrayal lifts the veil of secrecy surrounding animal farming, offering a rare look inside the world of alternative animal agriculture. $14.95

Sister Species: Women, Animals, and Social Justice

Edited by Lisa Kemmerer, Forward by Carol J. Adams

Sister Species presents the experiences of fourteen women activists who are working on behalf of non-human animals and a more just and compassionate world. $14.95
A Home for Henny
By Karen Davis
Melanie is a 3rd grader who is excited about a chick hatching project in her class at school. The project seemed like a good idea at first, but unexpected problems arise and the whole class learns a lesson in compassion. When the project is over, Melanie adopts one of the chicks she names Henny. *A Home for Henny* explores the challenges and concerns with school hatching projects while evoking the lively personality of Henny and her loving relationship with Melanie. $6.99

The Great Cage Escape
Grades 4-7. By Louise Van Der Merwe
The birds in a pet shop think they are happy until a brown box punched full of air holes is left overnight on their front door step. The creature inside looks very weird at first. But as his feathers begin to grow, his true identity becomes apparent, and the stories he tells inspire the pet shop birds to pull off a Great Cage Escape. This is a story that encourages respect for all forms of life and helps learners realize that heaven can be right here on earth if we choose to make it so. $4.95

Goosie’s Story
By Louise Van Der Merwe
A touching story about a “battery” hen who is given a chance to lead a normal life – a happy life. This moving book will be warmly welcomed and shared by children, parents and teachers, highlighting as it does the concern and compassion we ought to feel for all our feathered friends on this earth. $4.95

Hatching Good Lessons: Alternatives To School Hatching Projects
By United Poultry Concerns
A guide booklet for elementary school teachers and other educators including parents. 16 pages of information, storytelling, classroom activities & color photos. Grades K-6 (some activities are designed for K-12). $2.50 per booklet. 5 for $5. It can be viewed and printed out at www.upc-online.org/hatching/.

Minny’s Dream
By Clare Druce
What happens when a young girl from the city discovers a battery-hen operation in the country? What happens when a “battery hen” named Minny speaks to her? What must she do when her friend Minny is going to be killed? This book is a must for the young person(s) in your life, age 8-14. $10

A Boy, A Chicken and The Lion of Judah – How Ari Became a Vegetarian
By Roberta Kalechofsky
This wonderfully gifted children’s story, set in modern Israel, is about a young boy’s quest for moral independence. An intelligent book for all ages. Winner of the Fund for Animals “Kind Writers Make Kind Readers Award.” $10

Dave Loves Chickens
By Carlos Patino
Dave is a quirky monster from another planet who loves chickens and all animals on Earth. He encourages people to share his love and not eat any animals! Filled with fun and bold colors, this book is perfect for young children to learn compassion for chickens and all animals in a sweetly told, lovable story. $10

A Chicken’s Life!
Grades 4-6. PETakids Comics
This cute comic book illustrates a group of children visiting an animal sanctuary where they meet a flock of chickens and learn all about them including the differences between Nature’s Way and The Factory Farm Way. “Are these chickens really your friends?” they ask. “I’ve never met a chicken before.” *A Chicken’s Life* includes a puzzle for elementary school students to unscramble words including barn, beak, cluck, feathers, grass, hatch, peck, peep, wings, and lots more. $1.50 each. 10 for $10.

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More Books, plus Videos available at upc-online.org/merchandise
(continued) CHILDREN’S BOOKS & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Where’s the Turkey?, by Caroline Jones, is a charming and adorable book for young children. The child is engaged in a journey, with visual clues in the illustrations, toward discovering where the turkey is, which is not on the table. Young children love the “look-and-find” challenge page by page. I recommend this book most highly. It illustrates a Happy Thanksgiving with the whole family and a delicious Thanksgiving feast for which the turkeys themselves can give thanks for enjoying the day in their own happy “turkey” way. $6.99

– Karen Davis, United Poultry Concerns

‘Twas the Night Before THANKSGIVING

Story and Pictures by Dav Pilkey, Scholastic Book Shelf
Turkeys don’t usually celebrate Thanksgiving. And they wish we wouldn’t either! Here is a tale of eight children who meet eight turkeys who are in big trouble. Only the kids can keep the turkeys from meeting their Thanksgiving fate. But how will they save the turkeys? $6.99

A Rooster’s Tale: A Year in the Life of a Clan of Chickens, by Claudia Bruckert, transports readers to the fascinating world of Change, who tells the real life story of his chicken family during his first year of life. Enchanting experiences and intriguing facts, chronicled and photographed beautifully over the course of one year, convey deep insights into the daily life of chickens. Grades 3-12 and a reading joy for all ages. $20

Cha Cha Chicken Coloring Book
By Marc Chalvin
Narrated by Cha Cha the hen, this book invites children to visit Green Farm sanctuary and learn about the happy animals who live there. Written by Marian Hailey-Moss and illustrated by Marc Chalvin, Cha Cha shows children that chickens are people too and invites them to color their world beautiful! Cha Cha Chicken Coloring Book is a delightful gift for children K-3. $10

Chickens at Play
By United Poultry Concerns
This vibrant video shows chickens at the United Poultry Concerns sanctuary accompanied by lively music, with brief explanations of what the chickens are doing throughout their daily activities into the evening as, one by one, they hop up to their perches for the night. Narrated by a young child. 10:04 minutes. DVD. $5. $12.50 for 5. Watch: http://vimeo.com/13210456

More books and videos available at upc-online.org/merchandise
Stickers Send a message with your mail! Order our eyecatching color stickers! 100 stickers for $10.

With Heart and Voice - a Beautiful Greeting Card from UPC $19.95 for 20 cards. $38.95 for 40 cards, envelopes included. Single card & envelope $1.00.

POSTERS

International Respect for Chickens Day
Celebrate 12.5” x 17” Wings 12” x 16”

A Heart Beats in Us the Same as in You
Photo by PeTA
Full-color poster vividly captures the truth about factory chickens for the public. Vegetarian message. 18”x22”.

Friends, Not Food
Photo by Franklin Wade
Liqin Cao & FreddaFlower. Full color 19”x27” poster.

WHAT WINGS ARE FOR

CHICKS NEED THEIR MOTHERS
Photos by Jim Robertson & Karen Davis
Great educational tool. Full color 11-1/2”x16” poster.

Walking to Freedom After a Year in Cages
Photo by Dave Clegg. Full color, 1.8”x22” poster.

“Battery” Hens
Roosting in Branches After Rotting in Cages
Photo by Susan Rayfield
This beautiful color poster shows the rescued Cypress hens at UPC. Perfect for your office, your home, your school. 11.5”x16”.

Great Turkeys Poster!
Photos by Barbara Davidson & Susan Rayfield
The posters are in color, and come in two sizes: 11.5” x 16”, and 18” x 27”.

UPC posters in any mix:
One for $4. Two for $5. Three for $7.
Animal Agriculture
Miami Bus Stop Posters
Replacing Animals
Slaughterhouse Workers
Gerald the Turkey
Kaporos Campaign
Underwater Friends
Freddaflower Fund
For the Birds
Recipe Corner & More!

Wishing You a Safe & Happy New Year!
Please renew your membership for 2021

Thank you for speaking up for the billions of birds we work to bring out of the darkness of dinner plates into the light of human compassion for all creatures.