

*This Side of Wild: Mutts, Mares, and Laughing Dinosaurs* by Gary Paulsen

True stories of the author's encounters with wild nature, often with wise dogs as his guide, along with wise birds and horses. Paulsen is a great storyteller, and this is an interesting change from his usual books of adventure in the wilderness. The short segments are ideal for a little listening (or reading) at a time. Great for a car trip to anywhere wild, while camping, or to enjoy listening while lying outside looking at stars. Fun fact: did you know that all the ants on earth put together outweigh the humans? Lots more fascinating stuff! For ages 8 to 80 – maybe especially middle graders.

by Debra Blunier