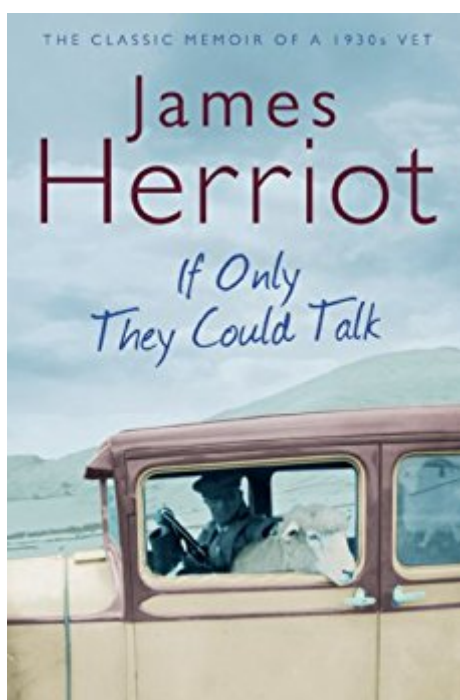


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# If Only They Could Talk: The Classic Memoir Of A 1930s Vet (Macmillan Collector's Library Book 88)



## Synopsis

'I grew up reading James Herriot's book and I'm delighted that thirty years on they are still every bit as charming, heartwarming and laugh-out-loud funny as they were then.' Kate Humble Fresh out of Veterinary College, and shoulder-deep in an uncooperative cow, James Herriot's first job is not panning out exactly as expected . . . To a Glaswegian like James, 1930s Yorkshire appears to offer an idyllic pocket of rural life in a rapidly changing world. But even life in the sleepy village of Darrowby has its challenges. On the one hand there are his new colleagues, Siegfried and Tristan Farnon, two brothers who attract a constant stream of local girls to whom James is strangely invisible. On the other he must contend with herds of semi-feral cattle, gruff farmers with incomprehensible accents and an overweight Pekingese called Tricky Woo . . . Heartbreaking and hilarious in equal measure, *If Only They Could Talk* is a book for all those who find laughter and joy in animals, and who know and understand the magic and beauty of Britain's wild places.

## Book Information

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Books > Veterinary Medicine > Bovine Medicine

## Customer Reviews

This book made me cry. I had a hard time catching my breath. It was so damn funny. It was also

poignant. I love the time period - 1930s - and the locale - York. This took me forever to read. It's basically vignettes so I'd read one story and set the book down for a week. But I prefer to think of it as savoring. It was so good, and extremely well written. The humor sprung up naturally from the situations and never seemed forced. I really can't recommend this enough. I know, I know, I'm late to this party - this book has been out for 40 years and I'm just now discovering it - but that doesn't make it any less impressive. Enjoy.

I have watched the James Herriot television series in the 1970's. A coincidence set me reading the books. "If only they could talk" starts in the 1930's, when James Herriot is newly graduated. He finds employment as an assistant vet in a country practise in Yorkshire (UK). Each chapter is a small story revolving around the practise, the trial and error of curing animals or the Yorkshire community. The stories are lighthearted and full of humour. James Herriot has a true compassion for animals great and small. A great read. Definitely recommended.

Another Herriot classic

I've been looking for this series in this edition for quite some time. I was thrilled to find it here and have it arrive quickly and in great condition :)

Always loved his books as a child and was so pleased they were no less beautifully written and entertaining as I recall. He describes the life and unique challenges of being a country vet with such vivid imagery one holds one's sides laughing, he captures the beauty of the countryside and the, oft well hidden but genuine, charm of its folk and the difficulties of dealing not only with his patients but also their owners!

Love love love this whole series! I can't say enough about it. I have enjoyed reading and re-reading this series for several years and there is just nothing like it. Great stories of a Vet's life in the olden days of England. Colorful descriptions and comedic and gripping writing. I would suggest this book for anyone looking for a chuckle or aspiring veterinarians... like me!!

Nice relaxing book to read. It lets you know life isn't always easy, but can be rewarding. Always liked Mr. Cerritos books

Love these stories...there appears to be some repeats from the original series!

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