

*Engaging Poems and Photographs of
Florida Animals*

Hanging Out with Wild Animals

by Cheryl Batavia

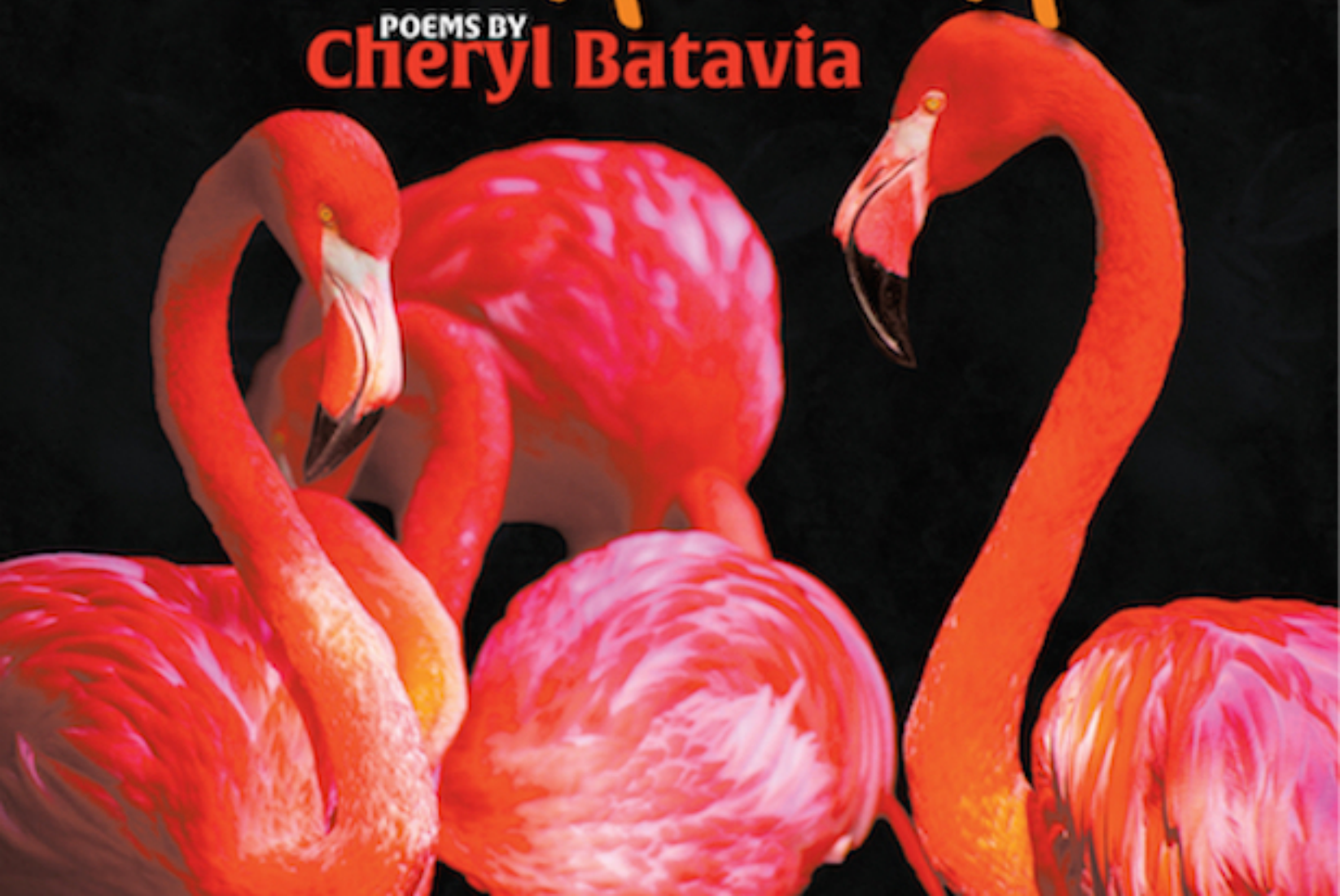
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with
WILD ANIMALS
POEMS BY
Cheryl Batavia



Hanging Out with **WILD ANIMALS**

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Cheryl Batavia



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Printed on Acid Free Paper.



*Dedicated to
Charlie & Gregory
Horton*



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A photograph of two sandhill cranes in a wetland. The crane in the foreground is walking through shallow water, its long legs partially submerged. It has grey feathers with a fine, wavy pattern and a distinctive red patch on its forehead. The crane in the background is standing on a grassy bank, also facing right. The background is filled with green reeds and some purple flowers.

Sandhill Cranes, Walking Two-by-Two

In their own world.
Nothing else exists.
Ignore the people,
ignore the cars passing by.
Just you and me, Babe!

Foraging
beside the road.
Tonight we'll sleep
in the rookery.



Our Bobcats are Insomniacs

Bobcats are nocturnal.
They just come out at night,
so why are they strolling
through our yard
when the sun
is shining bright?
I think they have insomnia
and cannot go to sleep,
or maybe they woke up hungry
and went looking for a treat.
If a bobcat is stalking our
hedgerow, looking for a bite,
I hope our rabbit is hiding
completely out of sight.



Raccoons

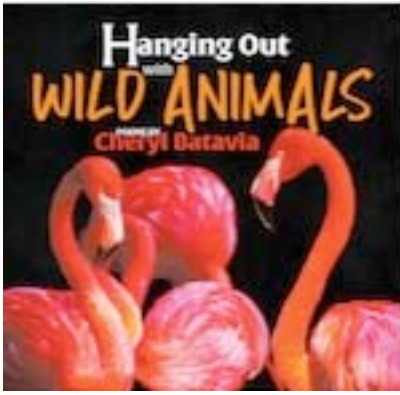
Raccoons are cute and playful,
but they're also terrible pests!
They like to turn over the garbage
and make an awful mess.

It's fun to watch raccoons
play like monkeys in the zoo.
Enjoy the entertainment, but
don't let them come close to you.

Armadillo

An armadillo is a curious sight,
if you ever get to see one.
He tunnels in your yard all night,
eating bugs and grubs.
Next morning, you find tunnels
and a pile of poop
the armadillo carelessly forgot
and left for you to scoop.





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