

Birds aren't often repudiated for their intelligence. But when talking about Corvids, the species of bird that includes ravens, crows, jays, and magpies, being called a "bird brain" can actually be a compliment.

Crows in particular offer a singularly complex glance at the life of a bird of above average intelligence. Able to form and understand fairly complex social structures, crows are, for example, some of the few creatures within the animal kingdom who remain monogamous—staying with their chosen mate for years. They experience empathy, even holding crow funerals for members of their flock who have died. They have the ability to both make and use tools to solve problems. And they can even experience and express gratitude.

One story tells of an eighty-year-old Seattle resident Gabi Mann, who made particular friends with her neighborhood crows by feeding them scraps from her lunch every day as she waited at the busstop. Soon the birds started bringing her "gifts" to show their thanks: an earring, a hinge, a miniature silver bell. The crows even knew the family so well that when Gabi's mother lost her camera's lens cap, the crows found it and returned it to the Mann's birdbath the next day.

Now that you have filled in the proper editing marks, retype the CORRECTED text into the box below.