

ForeWord Reviews

PICTURE BOOKS

Ten Birds

Cybele Young

Kids Can Press

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In this sophisticated counting book, ten flightless birds that look like crows endeavor to cross a river. Each one in turn comes up with a remarkably creative solution, using extravagant means such as pulleys, ropes, a catapult, balloons, and a fan attached to a raft, leaving the others behind until just one bird, referred to by the others as “Needs Improvement” remains. Without fanfare, he takes the bridge, a portion of which has been visible in each beautiful duotone woodcut throughout the story. An entertaining lesson in simplicity and following one’s own course. Ages four to eight.