



MOST  
LANDSCAPES  
ARE ONLY EVER  
SEEN AS  
USEFUL

Kya spent years documenting the marsh by sketching shells, painting herons, pressing feathers.

She never intended for anyone else to see them.

When a scientist finally saw her work he said:

these are the books everyone's been waiting for

- pg 177

THE HEART-PAIN  
SEEPED AWAY  
LIKE WATER INTO  
SAND.

STILL THERE,  
BUT DEEP

- pg 38

Picking a fiction novel for my literature review was at first scary. I have mostly been holed up with research or design-heavy non-fiction.

Where the Crawdads Sing is a beautiful novel that I think perfectly encapsulates what it means to learn a landscape from the inside out, a major theme in my thesis.

The book's main character, Kya Clark, grew up abandoned in the North Carolina marsh. She couldn't read words until she was ten. She had always been able to read the land.

title quote from pg. 73 of

WHERE THE CRAWDADS  
SING  
by delia owens

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thelitreviewproject



or scan me :)

zine #4 - designed & illustrated by  
zahra baxi

### THE LIT REVIEW PROJECT



- a collection of visual literature reviews combining research, reflection, and design.

This project reimagines academic literature reviews as something personal, tactile, and creative.

Each zine in the series explores a single book or theme through illustrated spreads, diagrams, and design elements rooted in fieldwork, annotation, and care.

This edition looks at Where the  
Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens.

THE  
MARSH  
IS ALL THE  
FAMILY  
I GOT

the lit review project  
no 04