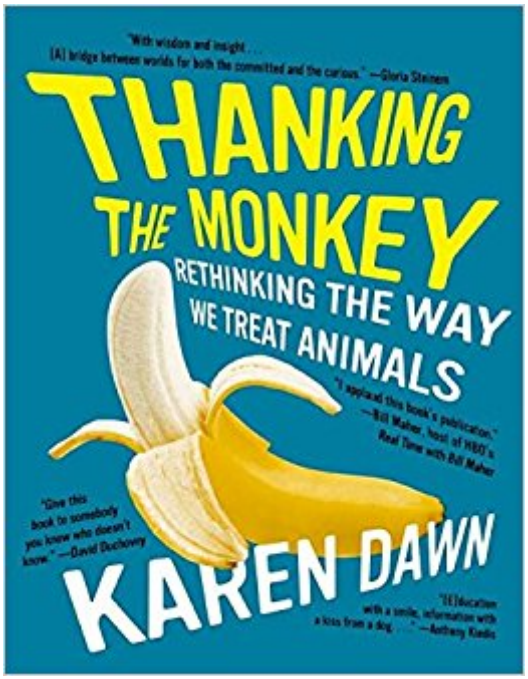
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Thanking The Monkey: Rethinking The Way We Treat Animals



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Synopsis

The animal rights movement has reached a tipping point. No longer a fringe extremist cause, it has become a social concern that leading members of society endorse and young people embrace. From Michael Vick's dog fighting scandal to CNNÃ¢â ¬â„¢s airing of the eye-opening film Blackfish, animal rights issues have hit the headlinesÃ¢â ¬â •and are being championed by students and senators, pop stars and producers, and actors and activists.Don't you want to be part of the conversation? InÃ Â Thanking the Monkey, Karen Dawn covers pets, fur, fashion, food, animal testing, activism, and more. But as the title playfully suggests, this isn't like any previous animal rights book.Ã Â Thanking the MonkeyÃ Â is light on lectures meant to make you feel guilty if you're not yet a leather-eschewing vegan. It lets you have fun as you learn why so many of your favorite actors and musicians won't eat or wear animals. And you'll laugh over scores of cartoons by Dan Piraro'sBizzaroÃ Â and other animal-friendly comics.This fun primer for a smart and socially committed generation delivers some serious surprises in the form of facts and figures about the treatment of animals. Yes, it will shock you with tales of primates still used in animal testing on nicotine or killed for oven cleaner. But it will also let you lighten up and laugh a little as we work out how to do a better job of thanking the monkey.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Animal rights activist Dawn is familiar to readers of her memorable opinion pieces for the Washington Post as well as her daily e-newsletter DawnWatch, but her first book should gain

her a wider audience. This is a cogent and thoroughly researched overview of all the major issues in animal rights, past and present, She defines animal rights more loosely than some would like, focusing on the general movement to advance the interest of animals and discourage the use of animals as objects of commerce. Her goal is to tell you everything you wanted to know about animal rightsÃ¢â ¬â •but were afraid to get into a fight aboutÃ¢â ¬â •and to let you weigh that information against your own values, and she succeeds admirably. Often supplying hilarious but pointed illustrations and quotes from well-known animal lovers such as Bill Maher and Natalie Portman, she illuminates the use of animals as pets, entertainment, food, in scientific testing and the Green movement. This has the potential to become a big hit for a general reading audience that wants to know what the fuss is about animal rights, as well as the many college students at the forefront of animal rights activism. (Feb. 26) Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Ã¢â ¬Å“Witty and well-researched . . . Despite the gravity of the subject, Dawn is mercifully un-didactic throughout, cutting grim facts with whimsical cartoons, celebrity cameos and feel-good stories. A-Ã¢â ¬Â• (Washington Post)Ã¢â ¬Å“Sensitive and informative . . . DawnÃ¢â ¬â„¢s view is not only uniquely free of overt sensationalism but factual . . . . Dawn manages, despite the seriousness of the subject matter, to intersperse bits of humor throughout, primarily through cartoons. A riveting text youÃ¢â ¬â„¢ll be sure to want to read.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Library Journal)Ã¢â ¬Å“[A]n easily digested, sound-bite-laden primer to all sides and gradations of the crusade for animal rights . . . An excellent introduction.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Booklist)Ã¢â ¬Å“[C]ogent and thoroughly researched...[DawnÃ¢â ¬â„¢s] goal is Ã¢â ¬Ëœto tell you everything you wanted to know about animal rightsÃ¢â ¬â •but were afraid to get into a fight about -- and to let you weigh that information against your own values,Ã¢â ¬â„¢ and she succeeds admirably.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Publishers Weekly (starred review))Ã¢â ¬Å“Karen Dawn discusses how people from all standpoints on animal rights can find common ground. Dawn, who writes the daily e-newsletter DawnWatch (www.DawnWatch.com), covers cultural differences, historical practices and a range of divergent views on the ways animals are raised and used.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Daily News)Ã¢â ¬Å“[Karen Dawn is] logical. SheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s levelheaded. SheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s funny. ThatÃ¢â ¬â„¢s why her message is so . . . darn . . . persuasive. THANKING THE MONKEY is a glossy, nearly 400-page, eminently readable book.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Washington Post)

Karen Dawn has been an animal advocate for years, and she really understands all the different

subjects of animal exploitation and how to draw attention from the media in order to expose these atrocities. This is a MUST read for anyone, especially those who have no idea what is happening to animals behind closed doors. She keeps it humorous at times, and then hits you full-force with the naked truth. This book is a great way for those who cannot watch graphic videos to learn the truth about animal abuse, though for me, watching the videos was the final catalyst to making me change my lifestyle in order to stop supporting the systematic, profitable abuse of animals.

Karen Dawn has put together a treasure! This book has loads of information about almost evey kind of interaction we humans have with other animals, showing how we treat them and the consequences or our actions. She provides examples and lots of background, and does it all with wit, humor and passion. There are photos and cartoons that make it entertaining and interesting, even when the subject matter is serious and even horrifying. I highly recommend this book to anyone who is already passionate about animals, and especially to those who are simply curious about our relationship with other species.

After reading this book, I quickly ordered 10 more copies and am giving them out as presents to all my friends. It’s as described, a wonderfully educational book about animal rights without the radical, in your face approach. It’s as light hearted as you can get, considering the subject matter. The cartoons and references really drive home the point behind the title. Gives you quick answers and come backs to some really silly comments people make when they realize you’re an "animal softie." I highly recommend it!!

I am in the pet health and supply business. This book has become required reading for my staff, and gets loaned out regularly. If the title catches your eye, you should read it. EVERYONE should read it, even a chapter or two; it will change the way you look at other living things. It’s perfect to lend out to "unenlightened" friends and family who are willing to actually open it, as Karen writes in a way that’s persuasive without being preachy. She’s great, and a wealth of info; check out her FB page. If you are interested in animals, and/or animal advocacy, this is a must-have in your library!

As I see it, propaganda isn’t a bad thing, per se. Propaganda is persuasive material. In the end, the propriety of propaganda rests in a number of factors that I weigh heavily in favor of this book. The material in this book is accurate, the purpose is to improve our treatment of animals and our planet, the style is an enjoyable easy read, and the motivational effect on this reader was significant. I’m not

vegan because of this book but I am much more selective of what I eat and aware of the consequences of my choices on food and other aspects of my life. Recommended.

I really enjoyed this book. It’s filled with humor which makes it a really fun read. It also features many pictures of famous animals rights supporters. It was very easy to read and made some really great points that a sure to "make you think". I also loved how she included resources for anyone who wants to get involved. Be sure to sign up for Dawn Watch Alerts. She will send you emails from time to time with helpful information. For example, I recieved an email that a news station would air an expose on the horrors of the dairy industry on channel x at x time. If not for the email, I never would have tuned in. Also, she tells you to go to the news channels website and view the story online. Most networks keep track of how many times an article is viewed, which shows popularity of the topic. Also, she gives you a link where you can give feedback to the network. You can let them know how much you appreciate the coverage. It really makes you feel like your helping in the most simple way.

I love animals so this book was sort of hard for me to read because I learned so many ways that animals are used and abused by humans. I think this information is what people need to know to stop this abuse from continuing to happen. There are a lot of pictures and it is very colorful. Great book.

This is a fascinating and sometimes funny look at how we have come to treat animals - who is a pet? and who is food?It brings to our consciousness the notion of "Do no harm". It is a wonderful book with a great title thanking those earthlings that have been ’sacrificed’ so we could have better hair spray - come on, earthlings!

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