

WHY WE LOVE DOGS, EAT PIGS, AND WEAR COWS: AN INTRODUCTION TO CARNISM BY MELANIE JOY PHD

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"A thoughtful book with substance and style. It should be required reading for anyone interested in what we eat and why."

—Kathy Preston

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EAT PIGS



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AN INTRODUCTION TO **CARNISM**

The Belief System That Enables Us to Eat Some Animals and Not Others

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"One of the most thought-provoking books in decades. The realization that we've been conditioned throughout our entire lives to think and act a certain way toward animals, and that we've been so disconnected from ourselves and our fellow beings, gives us a chance to make our choices freely." --Heather Mills

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"Why We Love Dogs... is an altogether remarkable book that could transform the way society feels about eating animals. You cannot read this book without learning something new and without pondering your relation to the animal world. This is a profound and deeply satisfying book that is destined to become a classic." --Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson, author of the best-selling When Elephants Weep, Dogs Never Lie about Love, The Pig Who Sang to the Moon, and The Face on Your Plate

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Why We Love Dogs, Eat Pigs, And Wear Cows: An Introduction To Carnism By Melanie Joy PhD

When creating can transform your life, when writing can improve you by supplying much money, why do not you try it? Are you still quite confused of where understanding? Do you still have no concept with what you are going to write? Now, you will need reading *Why We Love Dogs, Eat Pigs, And Wear Cows: An Introduction To Carnism By Melanie Joy PhD* An excellent author is a good user at the same time. You can define exactly how you create depending upon exactly what books to review. This *Why We Love Dogs, Eat Pigs, And Wear Cows: An Introduction To Carnism By Melanie Joy PhD* can assist you to solve the trouble. It can be among the ideal sources to develop your composing skill.

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In her groundbreaking new book, *Why We Love Dogs, Eat Pigs, and Wear Cows*, Melanie Joy explores the invisible system that shapes our perception of the meat we eat, so that we love some animals and eat others without knowing why. She calls this system carnism. Carnism is the belief system, or ideology, that allows us to selectively choose which animals become our meat, and it is sustained by complex psychological and social mechanisms. Like other "isms" (racism, ageism, etc.), carnism is most harmful when it is unrecognized and unacknowledged. *Why We Love Dogs, Eat Pigs, and Wear Cows* names and explains this phenomenon and offers it up for examination. Unlike the many books that explain why we shouldn't eat meat, Joy's book explains why we do eat meat -- and thus how we can make more informed choices as citizens and consumers.

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Most helpful customer reviews

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Should be a Movie

By Arthur Hoyt

Since we have become so disconnected from the life of the animals we consume, and the industry has become so obsessed with profit over welfare, books like this have become necessary to shake us out of our malaise. We need to know that the blood, guts and gore of the slaughterhouses and the cruelty of the handling and transport of animals are a prelude to the shiny plastic-wrapped cuts we see in the supermarket coolers. Consuming animals is an option, not a necessity, but almost every restaurant entree is meat: chicken, pork, beef, or mutton.

Strange that we care so intensely about a few who share our home, but the vast majority of food animals are beaten, thrown, shocked, or ignored as they suffer through the assembly line after their miserable short lives. The book points out the lack of feelings of the employees in the feed lots, chicken sheds, and farrowing pens ; how they become numb to the suffering they are a part of.

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful.

Intellectually Deconstructing Cruel Eating Habits

By Cindy McCombe

“Why We Love Dogs, Eat Pigs, and Wear Cows: An Introduction to Carnism” by Dr. Melanie Joy is an intellectual assault on carnism – why people believe it is okay to eat some species of animals and not others. The book opens up with a scenario where someone is given stew and then told that the meat in it is made of Golden Retriever.

I grew up in an environment where my entire family ate meat. I understand how difficult it is to take a stand in midstream when all sorts of family customs and celebrations regarding food are firmly ingrained. For the last decade, I have been skirting around vegetarianism and have decided that a vegan lifestyle is the only cruelty-free way to go. When so many alternatives to meat and dairy are in the marketplace now, I don't understand why a thoughtful, considerate person would not opt for this path instead of one where cruelty is the staple. I also understand that one's family and circle of friends should care more about the one's happiness than how convenient and easy it is to feed that person.

Dr. Joy's examples are well constructed. She does not simply appeal to emotions to get her point across. In this book, for instance, I learned that 19,011 animals die every minute in the United States for food consumption, and that is not including the animals dwelling in water. This equates to 10 billion animals per year.

If you are wondering why you might view an animal who resides in your home differently than one who lives on a farm, this is a great book for you to read. Also, if you are just curious why people make conscious choices to change their eating habits, this is also a good read. Even someone who works in the agribusiness would find this interesting.

Thank you Dr. Joy for such a great solid book. I would definitely recommend this to others.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

A critical read for anyone and everyone.

By Vincent

If everyone in the world was given this book, and only one person read and comprehended the content, than we would already be headed in a better direction. Not only is Joy's content insightful, compelling and thought provoking, she presents her material in a concise and easily digestible manner that every author should attempt to emulate.

By coining the term "carnism," Joy gives the animal rights' movement exactly what it needs: A term by which to label the violent ideology in which we live. She exemplifies just how powerful language can be as a weapon, and even provides actionable steps for the reader to use this weapon to change the world. That of course, is if the reader feels up to the arduous and uphill battle that they will most definitely face.

In the end however, while everyone who reads this book certainly won't be found on the picket lines of the nearest animal rights' protest, I like to (perhaps optimistically) believe they will at least occasionally choose a veggie burger instead.

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