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# Simians, Cyborgs, And Women: The Reinvention Of Nature



## Synopsis

Simians, Cyborgs and Women is a powerful collection of ten essays written between 1978 and 1989. Although on the surface, simians, cyborgs and women may seem an odd threesome, Haraway describes their profound link as "creatures" which have had a great destabilizing place in Western evolutionary technology and biology. Throughout this book, Haraway analyzes accounts, narratives, and stories of the creation of nature, living organisms, and cyborgs. At once a social reality and a science fiction, the cyborg--a hybrid of organism and machine--represents transgressed boundaries and intense fusions of the nature/culture split. By providing an escape from rigid dualisms, the cyborg exists in a post-gender world, and as such holds immense possibilities for modern feminists. Haraway's recent book, Primate Visions, has been called "outstanding," "original," and "brilliant," by leading scholars in the field. (First published in 1991.)

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I want to apologize for this review, because it is less a review of Haraway's exceptionally important book than it is a few sentences on the question of why someone should review a book on and why one should perhaps not. If you feel that you can competently say a few things about a book that will help a prospective reader know what they are getting into. If you have any kind of lingering doubt about your competency to review a book, then don't. Most of the people who have reviewed this book to date shouldn't have. There are books that don't simply exist within a field of studies, but define and constitute that field of studies, and their value transcends any one individual's like or

dislike of it. Giving such a book anything less than five stars is beyond ludicrous. I do not like Freud's INTERPRETATION OF DREAMS, but to give it less than five stars is simply silly due to its status as a classic. You don't review a collection of essays by the philosopher Donald Davidson and give them two stars, because those essays possess a centrality in the fields of the philosophy of language and philosophy of mind and philosophy of action that persists even if you think it the most disagreeable book ever written. You may find Jacques Lacan's ECRITS dense and unreadable (and many do, though, hint: read the seminars first; while the essays in ECRITS contain the same content condensed to the point of unintelligibility, the same themes lace the seminars in more accessible fashion). You may give Donna Haraway's collection of essays one or two stars, but all that does is make you look silly. It isn't quite a certification of idiocy, but it is a bit like soiling yourself in public.

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