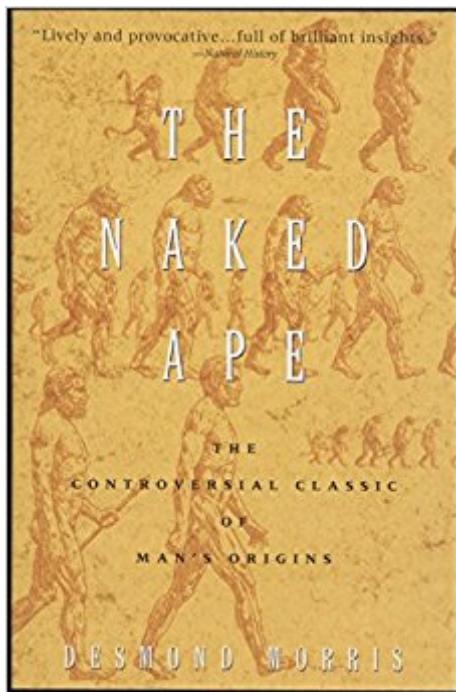


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The Naked Ape: A Zoologist's Study Of The Human Animal



Synopsis

This work has become a benchmark of popular anthropology and psychology. Zoologist Desmond Morris considers humans as being simply another animal species in this classic book first published in 1967. Here is the Naked Ape at his most primal in love, at work, at war. Meet man as he really is: relative to the apes, stripped of his veneer as we see him courting, making love, sleeping, socializing, grooming, playing. The Naked Ape takes its place alongside Darwin's Origin of the Species, presenting man not as a fallen angel, but as a risen ape, remarkable in his resilience, energy and imagination, yet an animal nonetheless, in danger of forgetting his origins. With its penetrating insights on man's beginnings, sex life, habits and our astonishing bonds to the animal kingdom, The Naked Ape is a landmark, at once provocative, compelling and timeless.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"A startling view of man, stripped of the facade we try so hard to hide behind." In view of man's awesome creativity and resourcefulness, we may be inclined to regard him as descended from the angels, yet, in his brilliant study, Desmond Morris reminds us that man is relative to the apes--is in fact, the greatest primate of all. With knowledge gleaned from primate ethnology, zoologist Morris examines sex, child-rearing, exploratory habits, fighting, feeding, and much more to establish our surprising bonds to the animal kingdom and add substance to the discussion that has provoked controversy and debate the world over. Natural History Magazine praised The Naked Ape as "stimulating . . . thought-provoking . . . [Morris] has introduced some novel and challenging ideas

and speculations." "He minces no words," said Harper's. "He lets off nothing in our basic relation to the animal kingdom to which we belong. . . He is always specific, startling, but logical." --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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The first part of the book was 5 star, unfortunately the second part was not as good. worth reading even if you do not finish it

Great service. The .com is the best library in the world (even for French and German languages). The book is very controversial, but interesting. I believe not in Darwin neither in old semitic books histories, however, since the psychology has a long, long way before it becomes a science, studying the behavioral patterns of the animals is the only accessible way to understand a bit our own nature. Please be aware, that the author keeps a complete silence about the human mental world, which represents not a less tangible reality for our deeds than the real world where we struggle for physical survival. Indeed, only the human can (and often do) accept great sufferances and death for imagined reasons, the reasons whose roots are not in the rational and biological but in the irrational, imagined, inspired, sacredly revealed... Strange enough that a such an eminent classical scholar as Walter Burkert in his CREATION OF THE SACRED holds the same position, asserting that everything, even the sacred is explainable by the scientific approach. It reminds me a little a philosophy of shop-keepers : ... great and beautiful things are hard to acquire and very distant, then keep yourself close to the reality: a piece of bread, warm shelter and healthy spouse... In other words " The thruth is good but the happiness is better". Nevertheless, this work is strongly

recommended for its crystal clear reasoning, lucid language and very rich observation material.

I absolutely love this book. I have probably given away 15+ copies of this book over the years to friends, kids and "adopted" kids as a great guidebook on why people interact the way they do. I simply can't recommend this book enough.

Desmond Morris is magical. This is the teacher everyone wishes they had. I can't overstate how good this book is.

Insightful, well worth a read. Very thoughtful analysis of human behavior.

Although the book was written decades ago, it is still relevant. To anyone who wonders why humans can't seem to get it together, live in peace, and so on, this book provides insight and explanations based on comparing homo sapiens to our nearest biological relatives, apes and monkeys. For me it was a real eye opener and what I learned from it serves me well to understand why humans are so screwed up. We were never biologically designed to live as we live, and most if not all social ills can be traced back to that fact. It's easy to read. Anyone who believes in evolution should find his analysis enlightening.

Fabulous now as it was when I was 20ish, I'm now 70.

An interdisciplinary approach to analyzing modern society. After all humans are animals so to see parallels between the "uncivilized" animal world and humans is logical. Morris uses sociology, psychology, anthropology, human sexuality, and zoology. He references Bataille, I think Derrida, some Freud, and Foucault. I have read many of his books. I enjoy his writing style and insights. He can be rather forthright about the cruel or silly things people in crowded cities do.

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