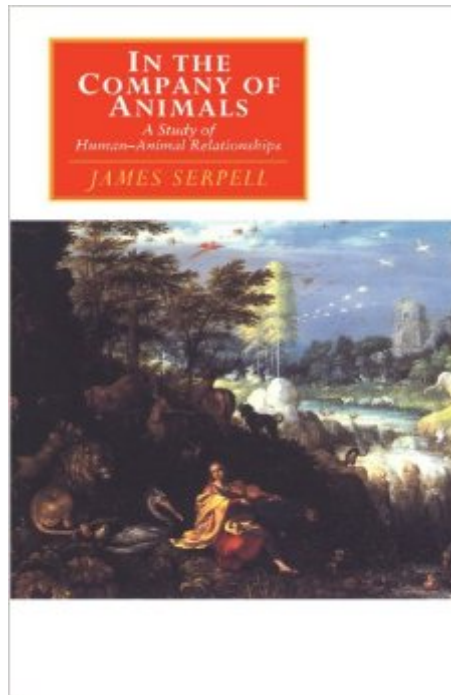


The book was found

In The Company Of Animals: A Study Of Human-Animal Relationships



Synopsis

In the Company of Animals is an original and very readable study of human attitudes to the natural world. It contrasts the way we love some animals while ruthlessly exploiting others; it provides a detailed and fascinating account of ways in which animal companionship can influence our health; and it provides a key to understanding the moral contradictions inherent in our treatment of animals and nature. Its scope encompasses history, anthropology, and animal and human psychology. Along the way, the author uncovers a fascinating trail of insights and myths about our relationship with the species with which we share the planet. James Serpell is the editor of *The Domestic Dog: Its Evolution, Behavior and Interactions With People* (CUP, 1995).

Book Information

Paperback: 316 pages

Publisher: Cambridge University Press (Canto); Revised ed. edition (August 13, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0521577799

ISBN-13: 978-0521577793

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.7 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,019,118 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #145 in [Books > Science &](#)

[Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology > Primatology](#) #240 in [Books > Science & Math >](#)

[Biological Sciences > Zoology > Animal Behavior & Communication](#) #369 in [Books > Politics &](#)

[Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Reference](#)

Customer Reviews

In the Company of Animals is the single best introduction to anthrozoology - the study of human-animal interactions. A woman once told me about her experience reading it. She said simply, "That book changed my life." Serpell is both a powerful writer and a leading scholar in this field. The first half of In the Company of Animals is largely concerned with the who, what, and why of maintaining non-human animals as companions. In the breadth of his coverage, Serpell displays an impressive command of psychology, ethology, history, cultural anthropology, and behavioral medicine. A brief sampling of a few representative topics illustrates the span of Serpell's intellectual vision: the role of pets in sixteenth century witchcraft, the effects of watching aquarium fish on blood pressure, bestiality, social parasitism, and why dogs rather than pigs became companion animals.

Serpell argues that individuals who keep pets have often been viewed with scorn, suspicion, and pity. At times, pet owners have been subjected to persecution and even death. Thus, this part of the book is essentially a defense of companion animals. Serpell reviews recent studies documenting the benefits of pets to human health, psychological well-being, and the amelioration of loneliness. He concludes that the company of animals serves to buffer their owners from the interpersonal isolation all too common in modern industrial societies. The second half of *In the Company of Animals* focuses on the darker side of human-animal interactions. Serpell is particularly adept at describing paradoxes inherent in our interactions with other species.

In the Company of Animals is the single best introduction to anthrozoology - the study of human-animal interactions. A woman once told me about her experience on reading it. She said simply, "That book changed my life." Serpell is both a powerful writer and a leading scholar in this field. The first half of *In the Company of Animals* is largely concerned with the who, what, and why of maintaining non-human animals as companions. In the breadth of his coverage, Serpell displays an impressive command of psychology, ethology, history, cultural anthropology, and behavioral medicine. A brief sampling of a few representative topics illustrates the span of Serpell's intellectual vision: the role of pets in sixteenth century witchcraft, the effects of watching aquarium fish on blood pressure, bestiality, social parasitism, and why dogs rather than pigs became companion animals. Serpell argues that individuals who keep pets have often been viewed with scorn, suspicion, and pity. At times, pet owners have been subjected to persecution and even death. Thus, this part of the book is essentially a defense of companion animals. Serpell reviews recent studies documenting the benefits of pets to human health, psychological well-being, and the amelioration of loneliness. He concludes that the company of animals serves to buffer their owners from the interpersonal isolation all too common in modern industrial societies. The second half of *In the Company of Animals* focuses on the darker side of human-animal interactions. Serpell is particularly adept at describing paradoxes inherent in our interactions with other species.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

In the Company of Animals: A Study of Human-Animal Relationships Cool Animals: In The Air, On Land and In The Sea: Animal Encyclopedia for Kids - Wildlife (Children's Animal Books) Collecting Early Machine Made Marbles from the M.F. Christensen & Son Company and Christensen Agate Company Company, Crown and Colony: The Hudson's Bay Company and Territorial Endeavour in Western Canada Chronicles of the Black Company (Chronicles of the Black Company Series Book 1) The Many Deaths of the Black Company (Chronicles of the Black Company Series Book 4) The

Return of the Black Company (Chronicles of The Black Company) The Many Deaths of the Black Company (Chronicles of The Black Company) Animal Control Management: A New Look At A Public Responsibility (New Directions in the Human-Animal Bond) Polyamory: The Practical Dater's Guide to the Pursuit and Maintenance of Open Relationships ****FREE BONUS BOOK**** (Polyamory, Polyamorous, Relationship, ... Polyamory Dating, Open Relationships) The Karma Queens' Guide to Relationships: The Truth About Karma in Relationships Teddy Bears and Steiff Animals (Teddy Bears & Steiff Animals, Second Series) FISH: Fun Facts and Incredible Pictures on Animals and Nature: Fish (AGE 7-12) (Children's Books on Animals & Nature, fish,) Horses: Kids Book of Fun Facts & Amazing Pictures on Animals in Nature - A Perfect Horse Book for Girls and Boys aged 7-12 (Animals of The World Series) Holistic Aromatherapy for Animals: A Comprehensive Guide to the Use of Essential Oils & Hydrosols with Animals Deadliest Animals On The Planet: Deadly Wildlife Animals Bach Flower Remedies for Animals: The Definitive Guide to Treating Animals with the Bach Remedies Do Unto Animals: A Friendly Guide to How Animals Live, and How We Can Make Their Lives Better Dinosaurs: 15 Most Bizarre Dinosaurs - Amazing Pictures, Fun Facts and More! (Weirdest Animals in the World Book 1) (Weirdest Animals in the World!) Animals Matter: A Biologist Explains Why We Should Treat Animals with Compassion and Respect

[Dmca](#)