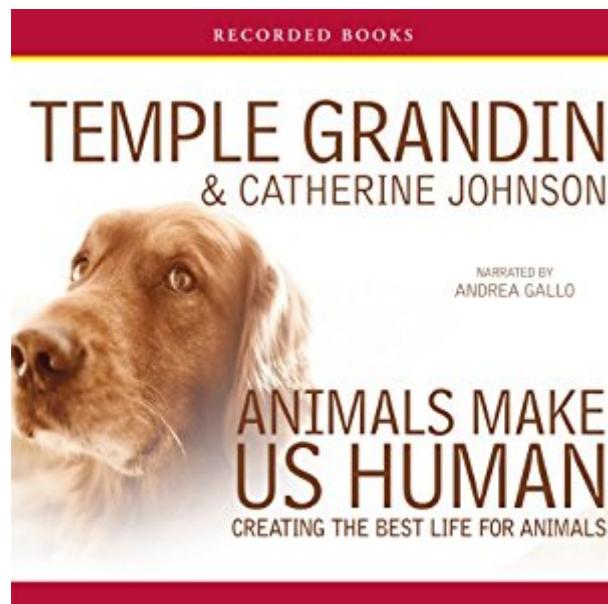


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# Animals Make Us Human



## Synopsis

How can we give animals the best life-- for them? What does an animal need to be happy? In her groundbreaking, best-selling book *Animals in Translation*, Temple Grandin drew on her own experience with autism as well as her experience as an animal scientist to deliver extraordinary insights into how animals think, act, and feel. Now she builds on those insights to show us how to give our animals the best and happiest life-- on their terms, not ours. Knowing what causes animals physical pain is usually easy, but pinpointing emotional distress is much harder. Drawing on the latest research and her own work, Grandin identifies the core emotional needs of animals and then explains how to fulfill the specific needs of dogs and cats, horses, farm animals, zoo animals, and even wildlife. Whether it's how to make the healthiest environment for the dog you must leave alone most of the day, how to keep pigs from being bored, or how to know if the lion pacing in the zoo is miserable or just exercising, Grandin teaches us to challenge our assumptions about animal contentment and honor our bond with our fellow creatures. *Animals Make Us Human* is the culmination of almost thirty years of research, experimentation, and experience. This is essential reading for anyone who's ever owned, cared for, or simply cared about an animal.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Temple Grandin shares her very profound insights into animal behavior all the way from small domesticated animals through horses and cattle and large wild animals. It was a revelation to me that her work for more humane treatment of animals centers on slaughterhouse methods and even

as a vegetarian I applaud her for that. She also has done stellar work in improving the treatment of zoo animals and there are very few animal behaviorists who have her insight. She also explains how her autism has given her these special insights and it's a must-read for anyone with an autistic family member or friend.

As someone who's had animal companions and friends all her life, I'm always eager for more understanding of them. Greater understanding promotes a much healthier and satisfying relationship for both animal and human. I found I was leaving pencil checks in the margins on most pages. It has become my animal bible. Great! Just bought her *Animals Make Us Human* also. The book's written in an easy to read manner without diminishing the content.

Extremely well written. Dr Temple Grandin has brought an analytical clarity to the subject. Animal behavior specialist struggle with criticism regarding anthropomorphism. I suspect that it is just normal animal behavior that has been attributed to the animal known as human that is being described rather than an anthropomorphism. When humans decide to raise animals for their benefits, then it became important to provide their basic needs from birth to death and is good business. Dr. Temple Grandin provides a wonderful guide regarding animal behavior and problem solving. Her insights regarding the suppression of patents and the problems with managing the behavior of people when they interface with a complex system was on target. Cattle have to navigate handling systems designed by Dr Grandin, but they are the simpler part of the problem. The more difficult variable is positively influencing the human behavior that interfaces with her handling systems. *Animals Make Us Human* is also a great business guide.

I found her insights to be significant and intelligent. As an animal lover, I have had many different experiences with a variety of animals and found that Temple's read to be accurate and true. It makes you rethink the standard "pack" theory for dogs and makes you look at animals with a new fresh perspective. People who live with animals know that there is a lot more to an animal than an automaton that functions as designed. We know that they are much more complicated than we can even imagine. This book brings you closer to understanding animal behavior and, dare I say it, their "feelings".

I came upon this book by accident. One of my coworkers volunteers at the local animal shelter and she had it. I asked what it was about and her description fascinated me. I've always liked animals of

pretty much any kind... except snakes. NOT FOND of snakes due to personal history. However, growing up, I asked for our first pet, a kitten they were giving away on the radio (it sounded like she needed me to take care of her), so I was the Cat Wrangler all the time we had her... and the other three that followed one upon the other. Now I don't know if I understood my cats but I played with them - a lot, fed them, bathed them occasionally (with help, of course), brushed them and changed the litter box faithfully. We were tight, believe me. When they needed to be snuck in the basement bedroom window when it was cold out, I was their GO TO Guy. I can recall many a night as a kid falling asleep on my back with a purring cat tucked in the notch of my left armpit. After reading this book, it made me wish I could go through it all again. I think I would be a better companion to them than I was simply because I would now understand their nature and how it was formed, what their needs are, and what truly makes a cat a happy being. There are sections here on cows, chickens and pigs, and I wasn't sure if I would enjoy reading those parts. Well, once again I found out some things that will make me look into the history of the meat I'm consuming whether it be from my local grocer or the fast food joint or the full-on restaurant. I will try to patronize the places who insisted that the animals that come to them after their end have been treated with at least minimal dignity during their lives. All people yearn to be respected, but in many cases they fail to pass that along to those they encounter, people or other living things. Once you read this book, you will have a different viewpoint on the animals and birds it talks about. You'll understand them a lot more than you did before.. and you'll be better for it.

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