



# Thanking the Monkey: Rethinking the Way We Treat Animals

By Karen Dawn

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## Thanking the Monkey: Rethinking the Way We Treat Animals By Karen Dawn

The animal rights movement has reached a tipping point. No longer a fringe extremist cause, it has become a social concern that leading members of society endorse and young people embrace. From Michael Vick's dog fighting scandal to CNN's airing of the eye-opening film *Blackfish*, animal rights issues have hit the headlines—and are being championed by students and senators, pop stars and producers, and actors and activists.

Don't you want to be part of the conversation? In *Thanking the Monkey*, Karen Dawn covers pets, fur, fashion, food, animal testing, activism, and more. But as the title playfully suggests, this isn't like any previous animal rights book. *Thanking the Monkey* is light on lectures meant to make you feel guilty if you're not yet a leather-eschewing vegan. It lets you have fun as you learn why so many of your favorite actors and musicians won't eat or wear animals. And you'll laugh over scores of cartoons by Dan Piraro's *Bizzaro* and other animal-friendly comics.

This fun primer for a smart and socially committed generation delivers some serious surprises in the form of facts and figures about the treatment of animals. Yes, it will shock you with tales of primates still used in animal testing on nicotine or killed for oven cleaner. But it will also let you lighten up and laugh a little as we work out how to do a better job of thanking the monkey.

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

**Starred Review.** Animal rights activist Dawn is familiar to readers of her memorable opinion pieces for the *Washington Post* as well as her daily e-newsletter DawnWatch, but her first book should gain her a wider audience. This is a cogent and thoroughly researched overview of all the major issues in animal rights, past and present. She defines animal rights more loosely than some would like, focusing on the general movement to advance the interest of animals and discourage the use of animals as objects of commerce. Her goal is to tell you everything you wanted to know about animal rights—but were afraid to get into a fight about—and to let you weigh that information against your own values, and she succeeds admirably. Often supplying hilarious but pointed illustrations and quotes from well-known animal lovers such as Bill Maher and Natalie Portman, she illuminates the use of animals as pets, entertainment, food, in scientific testing and the Green movement. This has the potential to become a big hit for a general reading audience that wants to know what the fuss is about animal rights, as well as the many college students at the forefront of animal rights activism. (Feb. 26)

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#### Review

“Witty and well-researched . . . Despite the gravity of the subject, Dawn is mercifully un-didactic throughout, cutting grim facts with whimsical cartoons, celebrity cameos and feel-good stories. A-” (Washington Post)

“Sensitive and informative . . . Dawn’s view is not only uniquely free of overt sensationalism but factual . . . . Dawn manages, despite the seriousness of the subject matter, to intersperse bits of humor throughout, primarily through cartoons. A riveting text you’ll be sure to want to read.” (Library Journal)

“[A]n easily digested, sound-bite-laden primer to all sides and gradations of the crusade for animal rights . . . An excellent introduction.” (Booklist)

“[C]ogent and thoroughly researched...[Dawn’s] goal is ‘to tell you everything you wanted to know about animal rights—but were afraid to get into a fight about -- and to let you weigh that information against your own values,’ and she succeeds admirably.” (Publishers Weekly (starred review))

“Karen Dawn discusses how people from all standpoints on animal rights can find common ground. Dawn, who writes the daily e-newsletter DawnWatch ([www.DawnWatch.com](http://www.DawnWatch.com)), covers cultural differences, historical practices and a range of divergent views on the ways animals are raised and used.” (Daily News)

“[Karen Dawn is] logical. She’s levelheaded. She’s funny. That’s why her message is so . . . darn . . . persuasive. THANKING THE MONKEY is a glossy, nearly 400-page, eminently readable book.” (Washington Post)

#### About the Author

Born in the United States, Karen Dawn grew up and studied in Australia. She pursued a science degree colloquially tagged "rats and stats," so she knows firsthand that views and habits can shift. She hopes her furry subjects will shine forgiving blessings upon this book.

She worked as a news researcher and writer for Australia's national nightly news magazine show *The 7:30 Report*, then moved to New York, where she played the downtown music scene—and made fruit salad at the Saint Francis of Xavier soup kitchen every Sunday. After reading *Animal Liberation* she was moved to devote her efforts to those most abused by society and least able to help themselves—the animals.

Karen founded the animal advocacy media watch DawnWatch.com. As a spokesperson for the animal rights movement she has appeared on MTV and hosted talk shows on major radio stations. Her opinion pieces have been published in leading newspapers, including the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Washington Post*. This is her first book.

## Users Review

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Do you have favorite book? When you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each guide has different aim as well as goal; it means that book has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their time for you to read a book. They are really reading whatever they have because their hobby is definitely reading a book. Think about the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, man or woman feel need book when they found difficult problem or perhaps exercise. Well, probably you should have this *Thanking the Monkey: Rethinking the Way We Treat Animals*.

#### **Richard Pease:**

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#### **Jennifer Pittman:**

The feeling that you get from *Thanking the Monkey: Rethinking the Way We Treat Animals* will be the more deep you rooting the information that hide inside the words the more you get serious about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to recognise but *Thanking the Monkey: Rethinking the Way We Treat Animals* giving you thrill feeling of reading. The writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by simply anyone who read that because the author of this book is well-known enough. That book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. Making it easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We recommend you for having this specific *Thanking the Monkey: Rethinking the Way We Treat Animals* instantly.

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