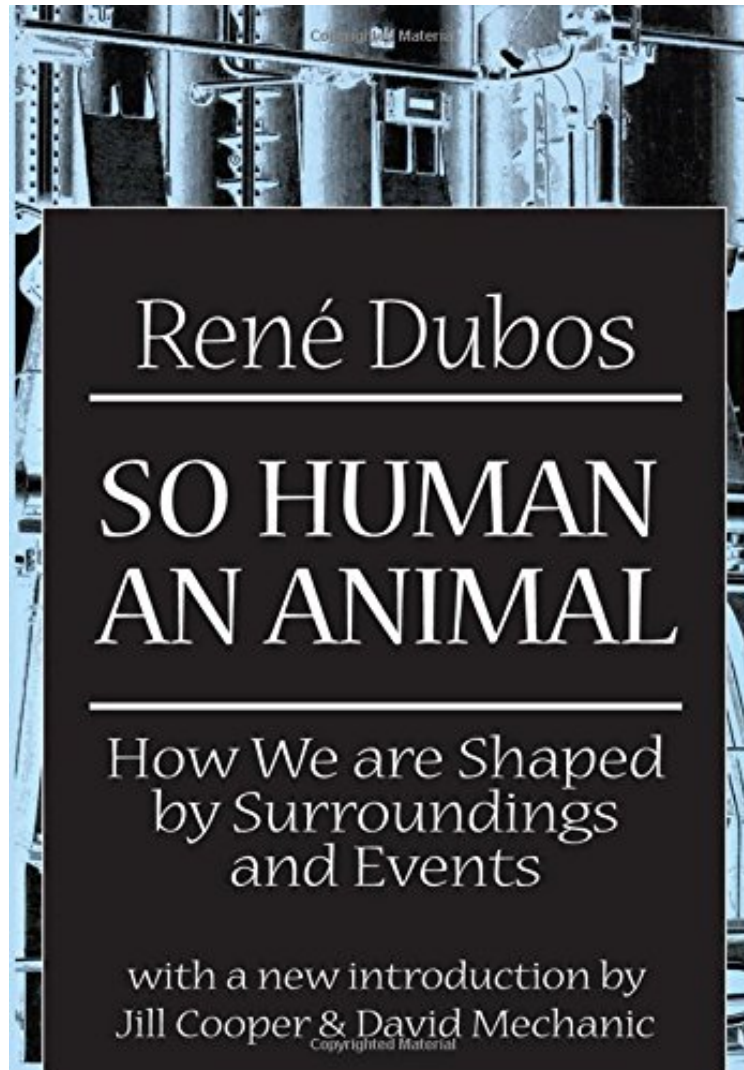


[Read and download] So Human an Animal: How We are Shaped by Surroundings and Events

So Human an Animal: How We are Shaped by Surroundings and Events

René Dubos

*DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1566485 in Books Transaction Publishers 1998-06-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.02 x .61 x 5.98l, 1.00 #File Name: 0765804298292 pagesGreat product! | File size: 29.Mb

René Dubos : So Human an Animal: How We are Shaped by Surroundings and Events before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised So Human an Animal: How We are Shaped by Surroundings and Events:

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. so human an animalBy J. P. KaasI have read this book because it was mentioned by Lovelock as shaping his ideas for the Gaia theory.In reading it I have found several interesting ideas and worthwhile one- liners but I it took some trouble to remain reading because the tone and phrasing seemed to come from another era. However, when placed in the appropriate historical context it is worthwhile.Persons interested in the

future of the earth and the role of mankind in it must have had this on their reading list together with the books of Hardin. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer Holy S***! 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. happy with the purchase By Celia The book was as described by the Seller, happy with the purchase and the price

At least until cloning becomes the order of the day, Rene Dubos contends that each human being is unique, unprecedented, unrepeatable. However, today each person faces the critical danger of losing this very humanness to his mechanized surroundings. Most people spend their days in a confusion of concrete and steel, trapped "in the midst of noise, dirt, ugliness and absurdity." So begins the essential message of the work of one of the great figures in microbiology and experimental pathology of this century. Is the human species becoming dehumanized by the condition of his environment? So Human an Animal is an attempt to address this broad concern, and explain why so little is being done to address this issue. The book sounds both an urgent warning, and offers important policy insights into how this trend towards dehumanization can be halted and finally reversed. Dubos asserts that we are as much the product of our total environment as of our genetic endowment. In fact, the environment we live in can greatly enhance, or severely limit, the development of human potential. Yet we are deplorably ignorant of the effects of our surroundings on human life. We create conditions which can only thwart human nature. So Human an Animal is a book with hope no less than alarm. As Joseph Wood Krutch noted at the time, Dubos shows convincingly "why science is indispensable, not omnipotent." Science can change our suicidal course by learning to deal analytically with the living experience of human beings, by supplementing the knowledge of things and of the body machine with a science of human life. Only then can we give larger scope to human freedom by providing a rational basis for option and action. Timely, eloquent, and guided by a deep humanistic spirit, this new edition is graced by a succinct and careful outline of the life and work of the author.

This is an important work that should be read and pondered by all scientists. Dubos basic message is that our scientifically directed technology is choking and stifling our very humanity and unless we as scientists redirect much of our attention and work into a humanistic framework our humanity will surely disappear. This is a powerful message. . . . [This] is an exciting and provocative book by an eminent writer and scientist that strongly suggests the need and way toward highly increased involvement of humanistic goals for science and technology. Solomon H. Katz, American Scientist About the Author Ren Dubos was professor at The Rockefeller University in New York. He was a celebrated microbiologist and experimental pathologist. He was the first to demonstrate the feasibility of obtaining germ-fighting drugs from microbes. Among his many writings are So Human an Animal, The Torch of Life, and The Unseen World. David Mechanic is director of the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research and Ren Dubos University Professor at Rutgers University. Among his books are Mental Health and Social Policy, The Truth About Health Care, and Policy Challenges in Modern Health Care. Jill Cooper is in the history of science program at Rutgers University, and is completing her doctoral dissertation on the early scientific career of Ren Dubos.