



Eating Animals

By Jonathan Safran Foer

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Jonathan Safran Foer spent much of his teenage and college years oscillating between omnivore and vegetarian. But on the brink of fatherhood-facing the prospect of having to make dietary choices on a child's behalf-his casual questioning took on an urgency His quest for answers ultimately required him to visit factory farms in the middle of the night, dissect the emotional ingredients of meals from his childhood, and probe some of his most primal instincts about right and wrong. Brilliantly synthesizing philosophy, literature, science, memoir and his own detective work, *Eating Animals* explores the many fictions we use to justify our eating habits-from folklore to pop culture to family traditions and national myth-and how such tales can lull us into a brutal forgetting. Marked by Foer's profound moral ferocity and unvarying generosity, as well as the vibrant style and creativity that made his previous books, *Everything is Illuminated* and *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, widely loved, *Eating Animals* is a celebration and a reckoning, a story about the stories we've told-and the stories we now need to tell.

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Eating Animals By Jonathan Safran Foer Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. The latest from novelist Foer is a surprising but characteristically brilliant memoir-investigation, boasting an exhaustively-argued account of one man-child's decade-long struggle with vegetarianism. On the eve of becoming a father, Foer takes all the arguments for and against vegetarianism a neurotic step beyond and, to decide how to feed his coming baby, investigates everything from the intelligence level of our most popular meat providers-cattle, pigs, and poultry-to the specious self-justifications (his own included) for eating some meat products and not others. Foer offers a lighthearted counterpoint to his investigation in doting portraits of his loving grandmother, and her meat-and-potatoes comfort food, leaving him to wrestle with the comparative weight of food's socio-cultural significance and its economic-moral-political meaning. Without pulling any punches-factory farming is given the full expose treatment-Foer combines an array of facts, astutely-written anecdotes, and his furious, inward-spinning energy to make a personal, highly entertaining take on an increasingly visible (and book-selling) moral question; call it, perhaps, *An Omnivore's Dilemma*.

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review If this book were packaged like a loaf of bread, its Nutrition Facts box would list high percentages of graphic descriptions of factory farm methods of animal breeding, mass confinement, and assembly-line slaughter as well as the brutality and waste of high-tech fishing methods; fresh studies of animal (fish included) intelligence and their capacity for suffering; and undiluted facts about industrial animal agriculture's major role in global warming. Sensitive to the centrality of food in culture and family life, Foer, author of the novels *Everything Is Illuminated* (2002) and *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* (2005), frames his first nonfiction book within the story of his Holocaust survivor grandmother's complex relationship with food and his response to fatherhood. He presents assiduously assembled facts (supported by 70 pages of end notes) about the miserable lives and deaths of industrialized chickens, pigs, fish, and cattle and about agricultural pollution and how factory farming engenders species-leaping flu pandemics. He also asks philosophical questions, such as why we eat such smart and affectionate animals as pigs but not dogs. Foer brings extraordinary artistry, clarity, valor, and compassion to this staggering investigation into the ethics, horrors, and dangers of factory farming. An indelible book that should reach a diverse audience and deepen the conversation about how best to live on a rapidly changing planet. --Donna Seaman

Review

PRAISE FOR *EATING ANIMALS*:

"For a hot young writer to train his sights on a subject as unpalatable as meat production and consumption takes raw nerve. What makes *Eating Animals* so unusual is vegetarian Foer's empathy for human meat eaters, his willingness to let both factory farmers and food reform activists speak for themselves, and his talent for using humor to sweeten a sour argument." ***O, The Oprah Magazine***

"The everyday horrors of factory farming are evoked so vividly, and the case against the people who run the system presented so convincingly, that anyone who, after reading Foer's book, continues to consume the industry's products must be without a heart, or impervious to reason, or both."

J.M. Coetzee

"Stirring....compelling, earnest...Foer brings an invigorating moral clarity to the topic." ***Entertainment Weekly***

"*Eating Animals* carefully, deliberately, takes you through every relevant dimension of factory farming...One sees it from the inside, the outside, the moral high ground, the dithering consumer level, through Foer's family stories, from slaughterhouse workers, animal behaviorists, even from defenders of the system... Foer's aim is not to make your choice, but to inform it. He has done us all a great service, and we, and the animals, owe him our thanks."?Dr. Andrew Weil, *The Huffington Post*

"[*Eating Animals*] is a postmodern version of Peter Singer's 1975 manifesto *Animal Liberation*...Foer is the latest in a long line of distinguished literary vegetarians."?Jennifer Schuessler, *New York Times Book Review*

"Some of our finest journalists (Michael Pollan, Eric Schlosser) and animal rights activists (Peter Singer, Temple Grandin)-not to mention Gandhi, Jesus, Pythagoras, Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas, John Locke and Immanuel Kant (and so many others)-have hurled themselves against the question of eating meat and the moral issues inherent in killing animals for food. Foer, 32, in this, his first work of nonfiction, intrepidly joins their ranks...It is the kind of wisdom that, in all its humanity and clarity, deserves a place at the table with our greatest philosophers."?Susan Salter Reynolds, *Los Angeles Times*

"A work of moral philosophy...After reading this book, it's hard to disagree [with Foer]."?Geoff Nicholson, *San Francisco Chronicle*

"The latest from novelist Foer is a surprising but characteristically brilliant memoir-investigation, boasting an exhaustively-argued account of one man-child's decade-long struggle with vegetarianism...Without pulling any punches-factory farming is given the full expose treatment-Foer combines an array of facts, astutely-written anecdotes, and his furious, inward-spinning energy to make a personal, highly entertaining take on an increasingly visible...moral question; call it, perhaps, *An Omnivore's Dilemma*."?Publishers Weekly

"[*Eating Animals*] is extraordinarily thoughtful and intelligent, and reads more like philosophy than journalism."?Holly Silva, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

"Foer's case for ethical vegetarianism is wholly compelling...A blend of solid-and discomforting-reportage with fierce advocacy that will make committed carnivores squeal."?Kirkus Reviews

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Terri Wiggins:

Are you kind of occupied person, only have 10 or perhaps 15 minute in your morning to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you have problem with the book compared to can satisfy your limited time to read it because pretty much everything time you only find e-book that need more time to be read. *Eating Animals* can be your answer mainly because it can be read by you who have those short free time problems.

Micheal McDonough:

This *Eating Animals* is fresh way for you who has attention to look for some information given it relief your

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John Stanley:

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