

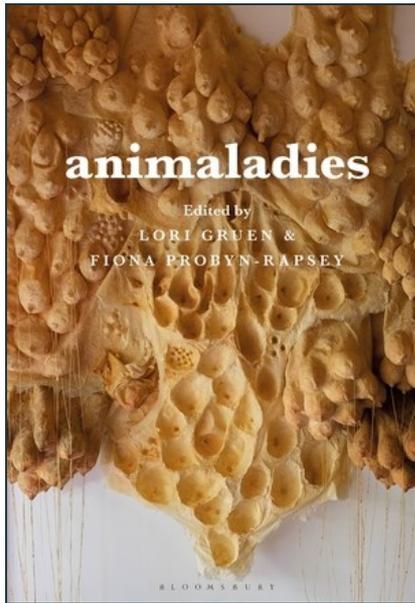
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Animaladies

Gender, Animals, and Madness

Edited by Lori Gruen & Fiona Probyn-Rapsey

"Women who are thought mad because they love animals, live with (too many) animals, won't eat animals, or object to the abuse of animals; women who *are* mad, or have *gone* mad, from witnessing the relentless abuse of animals. These are just some of the intersections of gender, animality, and disability explored by the artists, activists and scholars who have contributed essays to this important interdisciplinary volume. *Animaladies* is a groundbreaking work and should be read by feminist, animal studies, and disability studies scholars and activists, and all those working at the intersections of these fields." *Chloë Taylor, Associate Professor, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, University of Alberta, Canada*



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Do depictions of crazy cat ladies obscure more sinister structural violence against animals hoarded in factory farms?

Highlighting the frequent pathologization of animal lovers and animal rights activists, this book examines how the “madness” of our relationships with animals intersects with the “madness” of taking animals seriously. The essays collected in this volume argue that “animaladies” are expressive of political and psychological discontent, and the characterization of animal advocacy as mad or “crazy” distracts attention from broader social unease regarding human exploitation of animal life.

While allusions to madness are both subtle and overt, they are also very often gendered, thought to be overly sentimental with an added sense that emotions are being directed at the wrong species. *Animaladies* are obstacles for the political uptake of interest in animal issues—as the intersections between this volume and established feminist scholarship show, the fear of being labeled unreasonable or mad still has political currency.

Lori Gruen is William Griffin Professor of Philosophy at Wesleyan University, USA, where she is also a professor of Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and coordinates Wesleyan Animal Studies. She is co-editor, with Carol J. Adams, of *Ecofeminsim: Feminist Intersections with Other Animals and the Earth* (Bloomsbury, 2014).

Fiona Probyn-Rapsey is Professor in the School of Humanities and Social Inquiry at the University of Wollongong, Australia. She is author of *Made to Matter: White Fathers, Stolen Generations* (2013) as well as co-editor of *Animal Death* (2013) and *Animals in the Anthropocene: Critical Perspectives on Non-human Futures* (2015).



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