



Woman: An Intimate Geography

By Natalie Angier

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National Book Award finalist
A New York Times notable book

"A tour de force, a wonderful, entertaining and informative book."
—Abraham Verghese, *New York Times Book Review*

After fifteen years in print, *Woman* remains an essential guide to everything from organs to orgasms and hormones to hysterectomies. With her characteristic clarity, insight, and sheer exuberance of language, bestselling author Natalie Angier cuts through the still prevalent myths and misinformation surrounding the female body, that most enigmatic of evolutionary masterpieces. *Woman* is a witty and assured narrative with a reliable grasp of science.

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Woman: An Intimate Geography By Natalie Angier **Bibliography**

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Despite scientific evidence to the contrary, as far as the health care profession is concerned the standard operating design of the human body is male. So when a book comes along as beautifully written and endlessly informative as Natalie Angier's *Woman: An Intimate Geography*, it's a cause for major celebration. Written with whimsy and eloquence, her investigation into female physiology draws its inspiration not only from scientific and medical sources but also from mythology, history, art, and literature, layering biological factoids with her own personal encounters and arcane anecdotes from the history of science. Who knew, for example, that the clitoris--with 8,000 nerve fibers--packs double the pleasure of the penis; that the gene controlling cellular sensitivity to male androgens, ironically enough, resides on the X-chromosome; or that stress hormones like cortisol and corticosterone are the true precursors of friendship?

The mysteries of evolution are not a new subject for Angier, a Pulitzer Prize-winning biology writer for the *New York Times* whose previous books include *The Beauty of the Beastly* and *Natural Obsessions*. The strengths of *Woman* begin with Angier's witty and evocative prose style, but its real contribution is the way it expands the definition of female "geography" beyond womb, breasts, and estrogen, down as far as the bimolecular substructure of DNA and up as high as the transcendent infrastructure of the human brain. --
Patrizia DiLucchio

From Publishers Weekly

Did postmenopausal women invent the human race? Are males more similar to females than females are to males? These are among the many stimulating questions at the core of Angier's provocative "scientific fantasia of womanhood," a spirited and thoroughly informed if admittedly biased study of how the body is "a map of meaning and freedom." Angier (The Beauty of the Beastly; Natural Obsessions) presents new theories on the evolution of women's anatomy, physiology and social behaviors. She points out, for example, that the X chromosome has a "vastly higher gene richness" than the Y, which by contrast is "a depauperized little stump," and she champions the argument of anthropologist Kristen Hawkes that the role of postmenopausal grandmothers, who could help younger females nurture their weaned but still dependent offspring, "invented youth.... And in inventing childhood, they invented the human race. They created Homo imperialis, a species that can go anywhere and exploit everything." With wit and verve, Angier discusses such topics as ovulation, conception and birth; the social and physiological functions of breasts; orgasm, mate selection and child-rearing behavior; the complex workings of estrogen; hysterectomy; muscle strength; and female aggression and bonding. Her wide-ranging celebration of the female body engages the intellect but, more importantly, also offers a rigorous challenge to male-oriented theories of biology. BOMC selection; author tour.

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From Library Journal

Gabrielle De Cuir's sublime narration is reason alone to purchase this entertaining and very enlightening look at what it means to be a woman. Angier, a Pulitzer Prize-winning science writer for the *New York Times*, primarily examines women's bodies from a biological perspective. Although she explores many weighty scientific topics such as infertility treatments, the roots of aggression, and the evolution of sexual behavior, both her tone and her exceptional use of language make the work well suited to the audio format. De Cuir's reading is always perfectly reflective of the tone of the work, which varies from informative to angry to playful. Angier's comments on social issues and current events add to the listening experience without distracting from the wealth of scientific and medical information presented. With its terrific prose and

extraordinary narration, this production is recommended without reservation for all collections.

-Beth Farrell, Portage Cty. Dist. Lib., OH

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Anthony Robin:

This Woman: An Intimate Geography book is not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you have by reading this book is actually information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper you read a lot of information you will get. This particular Woman: An Intimate Geography without we realize teach the one who looking at it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry Woman: An Intimate Geography can bring once you are and not make your carrier space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even mobile phone. This Woman: An Intimate Geography having very good arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

Nancy Sena:

Information is provisions for folks to get better life, information currently can get by anyone in everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even a huge concern. What people must be consider whenever those information which is within the former life are hard to be find than now is taking seriously which one is acceptable to believe or which one the actual resource are convinced. If you get the unstable resource then you buy it as your main information there will be huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen inside you if you take Woman: An Intimate Geography as your daily resource information.

Mark Jones:

Precisely why? Because this Woman: An Intimate Geography is an unordinary book that the inside of the e-book waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who else write the book in such remarkable way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book have such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to delay having that book? If I have been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

Patrice Eubanks:

Some individuals said that they feel bored stiff when they reading a guide. They are directly felt the item when they get a half regions of the book. You can choose the actual book Woman: An Intimate Geography to make your own personal reading is interesting. Your personal skill of reading talent is developing when

you just like reading. Try to choose straightforward book to make you enjoy to study it and mingle the feeling about book and examining especially. It is to be initial opinion for you to like to open up a book and examine it. Beside that the book *Woman: An Intimate Geography* can to be your brand-new friend when you're really feel alone and confuse in doing what must you're doing of this time.

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