



## More than Human

*Tim Flach (Photographs) , Lewis Blackwell (Text)*

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Award-winning photographer Tim Flach has spent years inquiring into the essential bond we have with animals. Now he presents the culmination of a career-long endeavor, an extraordinary body of work in which each image is more striking and powerful than the last.

Just as did Flach's highly acclaimed previous books, *Equus* and *Dogs*, *More than Human* will amaze and inspire, in a constant affirmation of the animal, whether it be rare or common, powerful or defenseless, odd or majestic. The book showcases a menagerie of creatures—pandas, tigers, bats, lions, orangutans, cobras, bullfrogs, chimpanzees, wolves, porcupines, elephants, owls, armadillos, among many others—as they have never been seen before. Shedding light on Flach's images will be an accessible collection of texts, written and edited by author Lewis Blackwell

### More than Human Details

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## From Reader Review More than Human for online ebook

### Last Ranger says

Through The Looking-Glass.

It took a gifted photographer with a "state of the art" Hasselblad camera and an array of the worlds finest natural "models" to create this stunning coffee-table book. With close to 200 highly detailed shots of mammals, fish, reptiles and birds this book will give you an unprecedented look at the animal kingdom. Author Tim Flach devoted several years in the production of More Than Human. The book is set up primarily for the photo's, most are full page spreads with a few smaller multi-frame series and some two page spreads. The amount of detail contained in these huge blow-ups is astounding, you can almost reach into the picture and feel the fur or feathers. Extreme close-ups of insects and other invertebrates are incredible, giving you an intimate look into a small world. Most animal-picture books of this nature are filled with shots of wild free ranging animals in their natural habitat, not so this one. With the exception of the two Mexican Free-tailed bat shots, most of the pictures were taken in a studio type set-up where Flach had complete control of lighting and framing of the subject. The two bat frames were taken at Bat Cave Preserve, Texas, USA. The fish and other aquatic animals were taken at various professional Aquariums in the UK and USA. Many of larger mammals and some insects were at the Amey Zoo in the UK. Look for the picture captions in the back of the book and you will see all the different organization that supplied the animal "models" for these shots. One reviewer on Amazon voiced concern over possible mistreatment of the subjects. As far as I could see every shot was taken under the supervision of the organization supplying the subject and a professional Animal Handler was present for each shot. All of these Zoos, Aquariums, Film-Company's and Animal Breeders have invested thousands of dollars in their collections and I find it hard to believe they would tolerate any kind of mistreatment or unsafe shooting conditions that might jeopardize their animals. Flach does supply the name and Web address for each organization used, if you'r still in doubt do some research and see what you come up with. The text portion of the book is by Lewis Blackwell and he delves into the philosophy of photography in general and animal photography in particular, while interesting it was not exactly what I was looking for. In addition to the picture captions in the back some pictures have captions of their own that go into the biology of the subject. If you're looking for a book filled with unusual animal photos and interesting insights on animal biology and thoughts on photo-art then you might want to give this one a try. I was more than satisfied with More Than Human. The two weeks I took to study the photos and read the text was time well spent.

Last Ranger

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### Jennifer says

Renowned photographer Flach has curated a collection emphasizing the connections between the animal kingdom and the human one. Whether it's a similar anatomy, a connection through behavior we share, or something about how one species impacts the other, we have something in common with every living thing on this planet and the images are stunning.

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### **Emily says**

The photos in this collection are breathtaking. I paged through once, just to look at everything, then went through slowly and read the long intro and all of the accompanying text. Although I would rate this 5 stars just for being a fabulous photo collection, the text enhanced the overall effect, and I do recommend reading it.

Side note: this book is enormous and it weighs 4,000 pounds. Seriously, you can't pick it up one-handed. The size, though, is what gives the final oomph to the photos, so I wouldn't want it any other way.

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### **Jo says**

Unbelievable. The pictures in this book are breathtaking. It's an unusual undertaking, not without significant ethical issues. Most people try to take pictures of animals in their natural environment, but Tim Flach has (mostly) taken studio portraits, stripped of external contextual identities. It is an edgy feeling, seeing another creature through this kind of enhanced vision - simultaneously more real and less real, closer and more distant, a fellow being and an impenetrable other. I suppose human studio portraits offer a somewhat similar vision, the lights, the lens, the processing, all calling forth a creation that portrays a reality rather than 'is reality'. But my goodness, every page of this book is an experience and a dialogue, plus a hundred questions regarding the 'who' of these brilliantly executed images, and how we as humans relate to the animal world.

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### **Jayla Johnson says**

Truly incredible photos. It would be awesome if the photographer came out with a book on behind-the-sciences info, because I'm curious as to how he went about on taking such detailed close ups on the tigers, bears and other dangerous animals.

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### **Chelsea says**

Amazing photographs of the irreplaceable creatures we humans share a home with. The images are accompanied by enlightening tidbits about various species. We can also learn how the ways we are harming these beautiful creatures' habitats...and hopefully take steps to stop the destruction we have and are causing.

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### **Stacey says**

The photography is amazing. Get it to see the images, read it to learn about the connections and impacts humans and non-humans have on each other.

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### **Michelle says**

Couldn't resist these photos. It was fun to study them.

More than Human

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### **frogbairie says**

A five-star rating on Goodreads is synonymous with "it was amazing" and I don't think I've ever actually given 5 stars until now.

This book is large & heavy but so worth it because the photos within are truly amazing! The info snippets that are sprinkled throughout are just icing on top of something that is already marvelous. I'm seriously considering buying a copy of this to have on hand at home.

Do you love photography? Do you love animals? If so, you definitely want to check this out. Beware though because there are creepy-crawlies within these pages and I know some of you are squirmish over such things. A few of the pictures were even a bit much for me to look at too long. =)

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### **Peacegal says**

*"We patronize the animals for their incompleteness, for their tragic fate of having taken form so far below ourselves. And therein we err, and greatly err. For the animal shall not be measured by man. In a world older and more complete than ours, they are more finished and complete, gifted with extensions of the senses we have lost or never attained, living by voices we shall never hear. They are not brethren, they are not underlings; they are other Nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time."*  
? Henry Beston

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### **Rebecca says**

Completely gorgeous book of animal portrait photos, the likes of which I've never seen. This coffee table offering fits well with the similar books by Lewis Blackwell (who writes the text of this one).

See some samples here: <http://www.brainpickings.org/index.ph...>

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### **Dan says**

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### **Carol says**

Tim Flach is an amazing photographer. I love his book Dogs / Gods and I didn't think he'd be able to top that but he has. I flipped through this and looked at all the photographs and then I went back and read the intro

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and the text. The text was well written and only added to the beauty and wonder of the photos. I checked this out from the library and I don't want to give it back. I might have to buy this one.

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## **Matt says**

**“Today we look at images of animals more than we ever have. And yet we are more apart from animals than ever before.”**

An art book with a variety of compelling animal photography that succeeds as *More Than an Art Book*. Captioned photos highlight modern concerns including conservationist ethics, nature-inspired innovation, actual human meddling, and the general intersections between Man and creature over time.

**"We spend our days in towns and cities where we encounter other life-forms only through the frames we have constructed for them."**

But more than anything else, the preface essays give meaning to this volume's structure and content by pulling apart our assumptions of animal as other or object, animal as human, visual media as a form, and by underlining the self-imposed isolation of human modernity.

**"If there is something ugly on display here, we need a mirror to see it"**

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## **Robert says**

This is a stunning unforgettable book that is surprisingly transporting. Go through this book page by page with the book close to you. Each turn of the page may yield a different experience, sometime disturbing, sometimes awe-inspiring, sometimes eerily beautiful. My legs were a bit numb from the weight of the book when I was done, but I truly felt like I had been somewhere else and the return to the real world left me a bit dislocated. I was like one of those children in a fairy story returned from a magic land -- I wanted to explain where I had been and share it with someone else, but I was incapable of explaining the wordless parts of the experience I had just been through.

Although the essence of this book still escapes my description – something non-linear that emerges from the absorption of the images through the vast parallel processing infrastructure of your visual cortex, there are themes here -- something about our relationship to animals as being like ourselves, something about the attention to elements of the other that would normally not be visible. Some pictures clearly fit the theme of seeing the human side of animals -- hands, ears, hair. Others -- beetles, scorpions, snakes -- have no visual human connection. As the introduction says, these pictures remind us that they are first of all pictures, representations and not the reality. Their studio setting and almost mind-boggling detail as both abstracted and realized the animals in a way that, even if it is not truly transcendental, transcends any attempt at a short description.

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