Companion Animals and Us

Over the past 30 years there has been a tremendous growth in interest in the multidisciplinary field of human–companion animal interactions and relationships. This is not surprising considering that pets are kept in at least half of the households in Western societies. What, then, is so special about the relationship people have with their pets? Are we very different from our ancestors in the ways we feel about animals? What does pet-keeping tell us about ourselves and our relationships with people? Can pets be good for our health? Do they help promote empathy for other humans? These questions and more are explored in this book. Companion Animals and Us brings together some of the newest research from a wide variety of disciplines, including anthropology, history, psychology, sociology, human and veterinary medicine. This book will make fascinating reading for anyone interested in understanding more about the human–pet relationship.

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Companion Animals and Us
Exploring the relationships between people and pets

Edited by
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To Aline H. Kidd PhD (1922–1999)
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