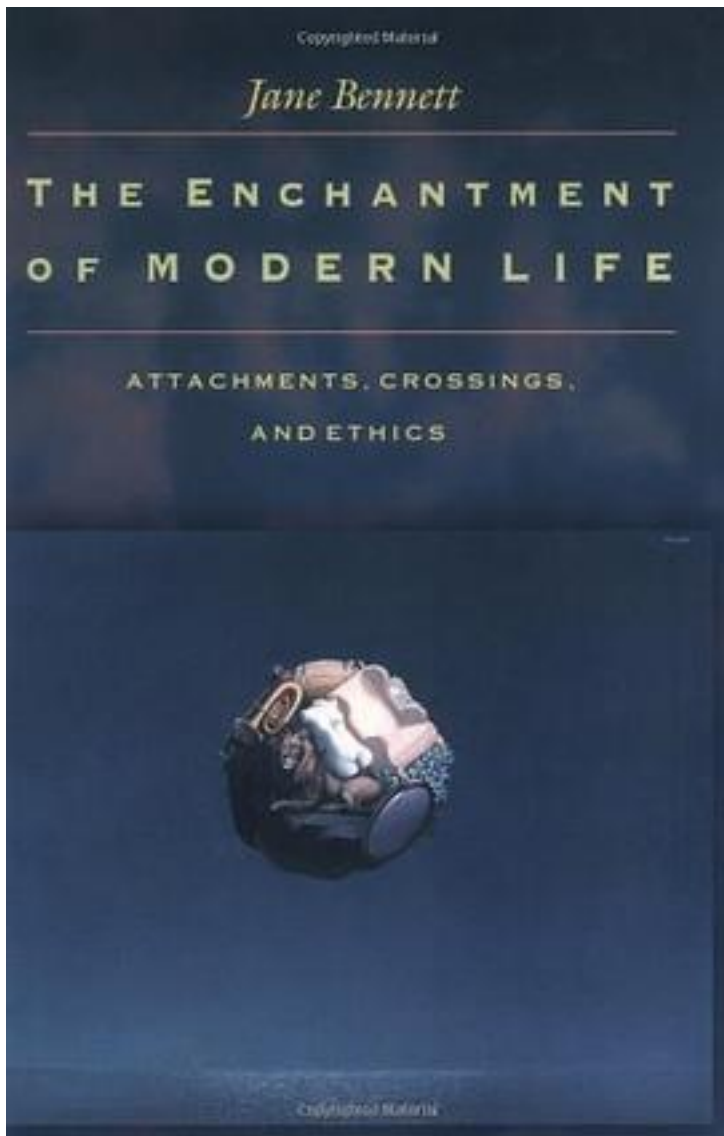


The Enchantment of Modern Life



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著者:Jane Bennett

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It is a commonplace that the modern world cannot be experienced as enchanted - that the very concept of enchantment belongs to past ages of superstition. Jane Bennett challenges that view. She seeks to rehabilitate enchantment, showing not only how it is still possible to experience genuine wonder, but how such experience is crucial to motivating ethical behavior. A creative blend of political theory, philosophy, and literary studies, this book is a powerful and innovative contribution to an emerging interdisciplinary conversation about the deep connections between ethics, aesthetics, and politics. As Bennett describes it, enchantment is a sense of openness to the unusual, the captivating, and the disturbing in everyday life. She guides us through a wide and often surprising range of sources of enchantment, showing that we can still find enchantment in nature, for example, but also in such unexpected places as modern technology, advertising, and even bureaucracy. She then explains how everyday moments of enchantment can be cultivated to build an ethics of generosity, stimulating the emotional energy and honing the perceptual refinement necessary to follow moral codes. Throughout, Bennett draws on thinkers and writers as diverse as Kant, Schiller, Thoreau, Kafka, Marx, Weber, Adorno, and Deleuze. With its range and daring, "The Enchantment of Modern Life" is a provocative challenge to the centuries-old "narrative of disenchantment," one that presents a new "alter-tale" that discloses our profound attachment to the human and nonhuman world.

作者介绍:

Jane Bennett is a political theorist at Goucher College.

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标签

现代性

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评论

我觉得一般，后现代框架下的非teleology的enchantment和原子主义都满有意思的。但是作者提出的enchanted materialism并没有展现出特别强的令人信服的优越性，尤其是书中对ethics of enchanted materialism的论证几笔带过。而且这个enchanted materialism有种新瓶旧醋的感觉。

Bennett对于enchantment的定义与惯常的定义不同，正因为作为前提的定义不同，也就铸就了这本书的特别。这本书最突出的观点是：在现代社会仍然存在enchantment，而且这种enchantment是可以被培养出来的。让人称奇的是她重新阐述经典理论（康德、马克思、法兰克福学派等等）使之与自己的观点相融洽的能力，也让我看到了从前在这些理论中看不到的东西。这本书最后的落脚点是试图建立一种与现代商业社会相融洽的伦理。读下来最深刻的体会就是：新奇。它让我看到理论之间的联系不仅仅是“他们都做了什么”，还有“他们都没有做到什么”。

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