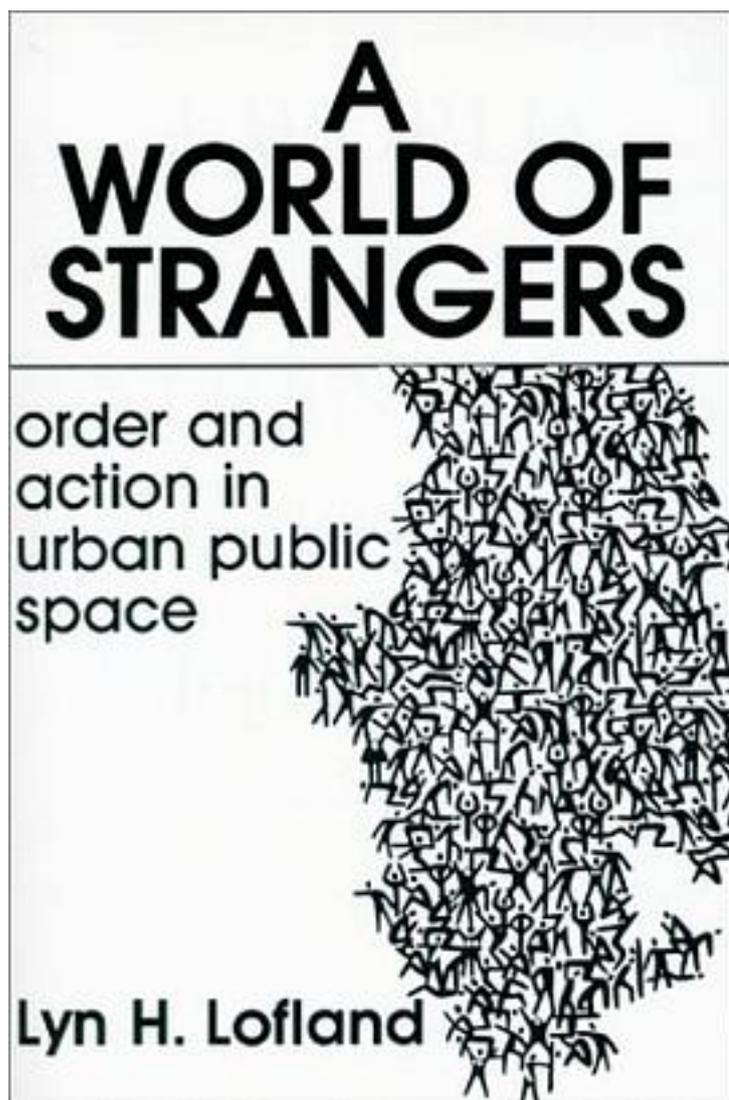


A World of Strangers



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Editorial Reviews

Product Description

In traditional human societies, the stranger was a threat, to be disarmed at once by an act of force or by a ritual of hospitality. Under no conditions could a stranger be ignored or taken for granted. Yet in all great cities today, human beings seem to live out their entire lives in "a world of strangers." How did it become possible for millions of people to do this? How is city life possible? The unique value of *A World of Strangers* lies in Dr. Lofland's expert use of rich historical and anthropological sources to answer these questions. She demonstrates that "a potentially chaotic and meaningless world of strangers was transformed into a knowable and predictable world of strangers by the same mechanism humans always use to make their world livable: it was ordered." Lofland offers a brilliant analysis of the various devices used at different times in history to create social and psychological order in cities, concluding with an analysis of the contemporary city, in which the location of the encounter between strangers has come to replace personal appearance as a means of evaluating others. Dr. Lofland also describes how city people initially learn and then act upon the ordering principles dominant in their society. *A World of Strangers* is a wonderfully wise and readable account of how we have come to live as we do.

From the Publisher

Titles of related interest from Waveland Press: Banfield, *The Unheavenly City Revisited* (ISBN 0881335290); Gmelch-Zenner, *Urban Life: Readings in Urban Anthropology*, Fourth Edition (ISBN 157766194X); Howell, *Hard Living on Clay Street: Portraits of Blue Collar Families* (ISBN 0881335266); and Shannon et al., *Urban Problems in Sociological Perspective*, Fourth Edition (ISBN 1577661958).

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评论

Lofland大概是最近最喜欢的作者了，各种腹黑然而写作好有条理，特别想一边吃薯片一边看。。。//看完以后真是充满了复杂的情感，每句话好像都是废话但每句好像又很在理，感觉被分析得十分无地自容。。中间一段讲前工业城市和现代城市特征好长但是可以当八卦看，虽然对appreantial order 和spatial order并没有很认同。。中间一段principles of symbolic transformation简直是给社恐写的行为指南。。

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书评

和索别谈论过很多关于categorize人的弊端
但是这本书告诉了我人为什么还是要categorize另一个人 As a cosmopolitan live a city full of strangers, categorization is necessary for people to lessen the strangeness.

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