



# **What's a Dog For?: The Surprising History, Science, Philosophy, and Politics of Man's Best Friend**

*John Homans*

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As dogs take their place as coddled family members and their numbers balloon to over 77 million in the United States alone, it's no surprise that canine culture is undergoing a massive transformation. Now subject to many of the same questions of rights and ethics as people, the politics of dogs are more tumultuous and public than ever—with fierce moral battles raging over kill shelters, puppy mills, and breed standards. Incorporating interviews and research from scientists, activists, breeders, and trainers, *What's a Dog For?* investigates how dogs have reached this exalted status, and why they hold such fascination for us humans.



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