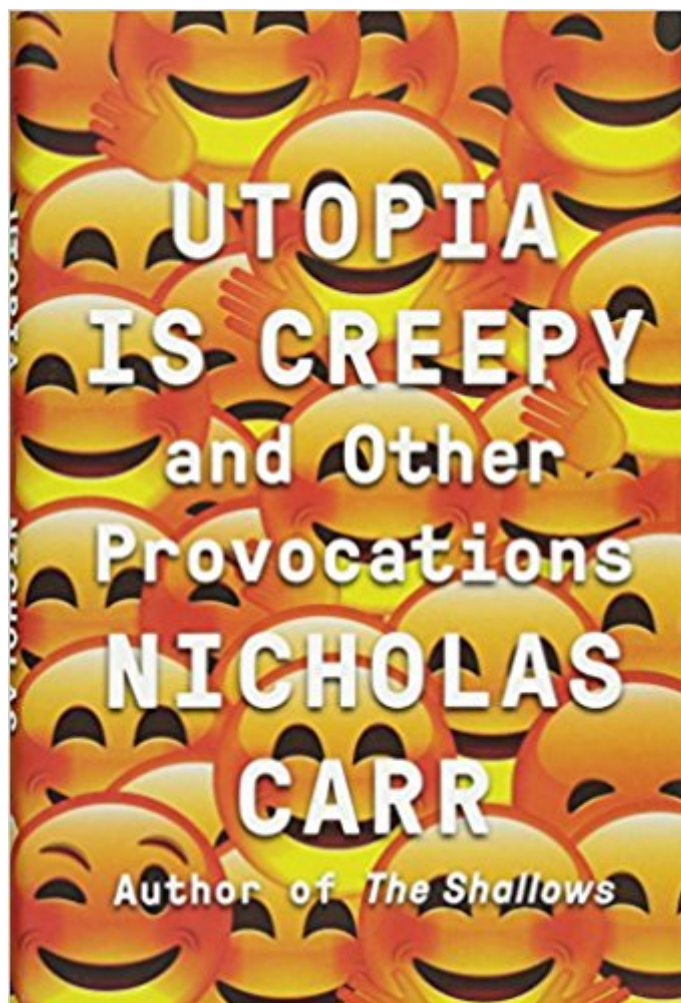The book was found

Utopia Is Creepy: And Other Provocations

Synopsis

A freewheeling, sharp-shooting indictment of a tech-besotted culture.With a razor wit, Nicholas Carr cuts through Silicon ValleyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s unsettlingly cheery vision of the technological future to ask a hard question: Have we been seduced by a lie? Gathering a decadeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s worth of posts from his blog, Rough Type, as well as his seminal essays, Utopia Is Creepy offers an alternative history of the digital age, chronicling its roller-coaster crazes and crashes, its blind triumphs, and its unintended consequences.CarrÃ¢â ¬â„¢s favorite targets are those zealots who believe so fervently in computers and data that they abandon common sense. Cheap digital tools do not make us all the next Fellini or Dylan. Social networks, diverting as they may be, are not vehicles for self-enlightenment. And Ã¢â ¬Å"likesÃ¢â ¬Â• and retweets are not going to elevate political discourse. When we expect technologiesÃ¢â ¬â ¢designed for profitÃ¢â ¬â ¢to deliver a paradise of prosperity and convenience, we have forgotten ourselves. In response, Carr offers searching assessments of the future of work, the fate of reading, and the rise of artificial intelligence, challenging us to see our world anew.In famous essays including Ã¢â ¬Å"Is Google Making Us Stupid?Ã¢â ¬Â• and Ã¢â ¬Å"Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Privacy,Ã¢â ¬Â• Carr dissects the logic behind Silicon ValleyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Ã¢â ¬Å"liberation mythology,Ã¢â ¬Â• showing how technology has both enriched and imprisoned usÃ¢â ¬â ¢often at the same time. Drawing on artists ranging from Walt Whitman to the Clash, while weaving in the latest findings from science and sociology, Utopia Is Creepy compels us to question the technological momentum that has trapped us in its flow. Ã¢â ¬Å"Resistance is never futile,Ã¢â ¬Â• argues Carr, and this book delivers the proof.

Book Information

Hardcover: 384 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; 1 edition (September 6, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0393254542

ISBN-13: 978-0393254549

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 1.3 x 9.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars   11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #37,465 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #26 inÃ Â Books > Science & Math > Essays & Commentary   #80 inÃ Â Books > Science & Math > Technology > Social Aspects

Customer Reviews

"[A] bright, fun, telling book . . . nuanced and satisfying . . . A collection that reminds us that critical thinking is the best way to view the mixed blessings of rampant technology." -Kirkus Reviews"Startlingly prescient." -New York Times Book Review"As the title promises, these are rapid-fire volleys of ideas deceptively designed to engage at a depth greater than 140 characters. By turns wry and revelatory, and occasionally maddening, Carr succeeds in shaking the reader out of screen-zombie complacency." -Discover"Utopia Is Creepy ... is full of wry vignettes and articles lampooning the motivated enthusiasm and game-changing promises of Silicon Valley's tech bro elite ... This is an uncompromising portrait of the internet as a vulgar, cramped, unpleasant marketplace run by marketers, surveillance states and people shouting at you." -New Scientist"The prescient Nicholas Carr punches a hole in Silicon Valley cultural hubris with Utopia Is Creepy." -Time "This highly browsable collection will hold great appeal for anyone interested in the social aspects of technology, from tech lovers to pre-Internet nostalgists." -Library Journal Ã¢â ¬Å"The prescient Nicholas Carr punches a hole in Silicon Valley hubris.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Rana Foroohar, TimeÃ¢â ¬Å"Carr, a Pulitzer Prize finalist, takes on modern lifeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s short attention spans and worship of the superficial in a . . . rapid-fire volley of ideas deceptively designed to engage at a depth greater than 140 characters. By turns wry and revelatory, and occasionally maddening, Carr succeeds at shaking the reader out of screen-zombie complacency.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Discover MagazineÃ¢â ¬Å"[F]ull of wry vignettes and articles lampooning the motivated enthusiasm and game-changing promises of Silicon ValleyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s tech bro eliteÃ¢â ¬Â| by turns cute, funny or chilling. And itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s more than the sum of its parts.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Sally Adee, New ScientistÃ¢â ¬Å"CarrÃ¢â ¬â„¢s best hits for those who missed the last decade of his stream of thoughtful commentary about our love affair with technology and its effect on our relationships.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Richard Cytowic, New York Journal of BooksÃ¢â ¬Å"Bright, fun, telling. . . . A collection that reminds us that critical thinking is the best way to view the mixed blessings of rampant technology. A treat for Carr fans.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Kirkus Reviews (Starred Review)Ã¢â ¬Å"This highly browsable collection will hold great appeal for anyone interested in the social aspects of technology, from tech lovers to pre-Internet nostalgists.Ã¢â ¬Â• - Library Journal

Nicholas Carr is the author of The Shallows, a Pulitzer Prize finalist, and The Glass Cage, among other books. Former executive editor of the Harvard Business Review, he has written for The

Atlantic, the New York Times, and Wired. He lives in Colorado.

This book is a collection of entries on the ever-increasing speed of advances in computing, networks and other technologies. Because the chapters are adapted from writings spanning a decade or more, they reflect on developments while they occurred, giving a unique perspective to the insights; often correcting urban myths that are generated by the captains of industry/technology to mythologized themselves and their intent. The author presents a birds eye view of the Internet and casts away our the illusion that it grants extended control over our lives. He sees it as a useful appliance, but also a method of corporate control; our feeling of agency is unreal. Instead, it turns us into tools of manipulation and means of wealth accumulation for the elite. The Internet is not something we consume. Instead, we are "sharecroppers

This is a fine read: ingenious, nicely written, full of insights and humor. I enjoyed it thoroughly and, particularly, the following paragraph inspired me: "The millions of people who write ...book reviews for don't get paid for their labor, but the content they create is a valuable asset for the companies.It's a modern kind of sharecropping system." (pg. 29 of the Kindle edition)A thought that speaks for itself !

This was one of the best books I have read in years. Anyone who is interested in the role of technology, particularly information technology, in our lives and it's threats and limitations - as well as potential, this is as good of a read as you will find. Carr is a masterful writer, a great researcher and clear thinker. He's not 'drank the cool-aid' of the tech world, but knows what it smells like.

Nicholas Carr is so perceptive. His humor makes this very readable... but the creepiness and his insight to addiction to technology becomes quite obvious. Combined with his book "The Shallows" this is must reading for any generation.

A truly delightful and often thought provoking hop, skip and jump through various aspects of technology and our personal and society's love/hate relationships with it.

Fantastic book! Thought provoking ideas.

Well written. Will confirm what many of us have thought: the left-brain algorithmic techno-minded

ones are attempting to lead Homo sapiens and the rest of Life into the wondrous world of extinction by bits and bytes. Highly recommended.

necessary and provocative.

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