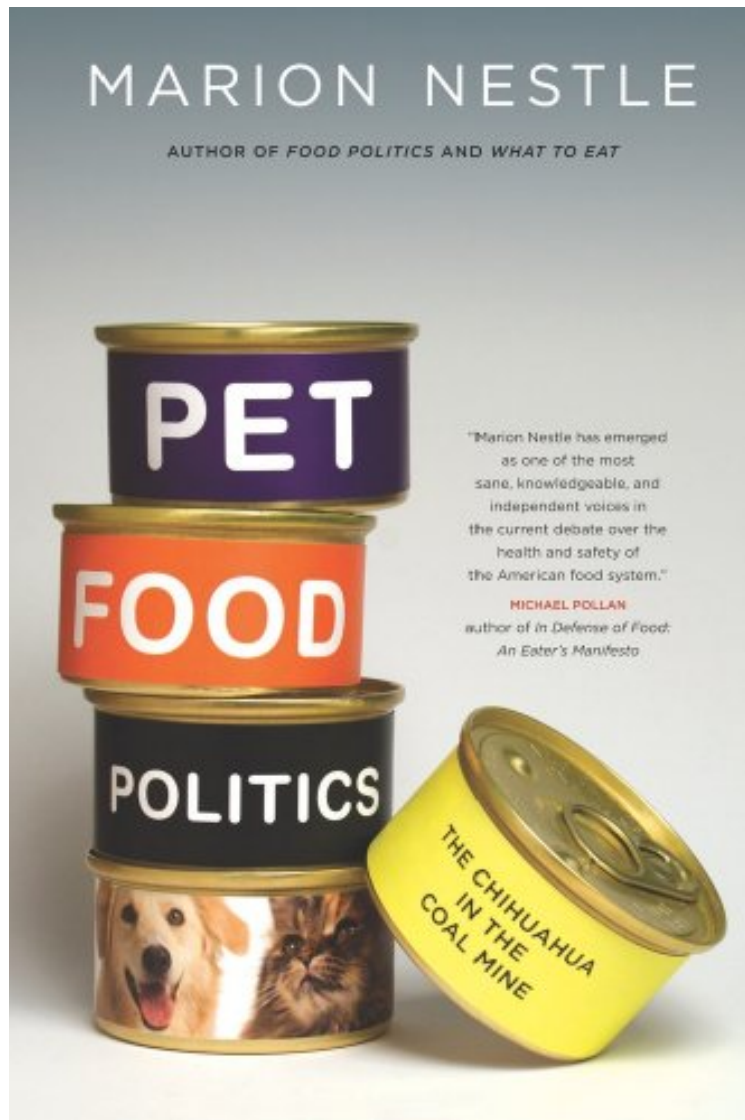


(Read free) Pet Food Politics: The Chihuahua in the Coal Mine

Pet Food Politics: The Chihuahua in the Coal Mine

Marion Nestle

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Marion Nestle : Pet Food Politics: The Chihuahua in the Coal Mine before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Pet Food Politics: The Chihuahua in the Coal Mine*:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Important InvestigationBy Linda F. KurtzThis short book provides a competent overview of the China melamine pet food scare of two years ago. As a dog owner who lived through it and searched for updates on what was safe and what wasn't, I was very interested in Nestle's investigation and findings after the fact. While I was reading it, the news broke about the same kind of poisoning in baby formula in China. Had I

not seen that, I might have believed that once the perpetrator of the pet food poisoning was executed!! the poisoning would stop, but no. As Nestle expertly explains, despite the lack of safely involved with worldwide food production, the United States is woefully short of regulatory and safety inspectors for these products as they come into the country and are combined with other ingredients and then distributed to companies who make food of all kinds and specifically pet food. Maybe, pet food companies will take more care in their formulations, however, all pet owners should take the time to investigate the manufacturer of the food they use and pay extra for the better brands of pet food. Nestle lists the brands that had to be recalled for both cat and dog food in the back of her book.²⁹ of 30 people found the following review helpful. The story of the pet food recall of 2007 By Joseph Adler Marion Nestle's book "Pet Food Politics" is about the pet food recall of 2007. For those of you who don't remember, there was a massive recall of pet food last summer. The recall began with cat food manufactured by Menu Foods (but sold under many other brand names including Iams, Nutro, and Hill's), but expanded into a large number of cat and dog foods under many different brand names. It became clear after the recall that the problem occurred because an unscrupulous Chinese supplier sold a mixture of wheat flour, cyanuric acid, and melamine as wheat gluten. As a pet owner, the recall inconvenienced me (I had to change my cats' foods). As a parent, I became greatly concerned about what I was feeding my daughter and began seriously looking at where the food I bought was produced. I bought this book because I wanted to better understand what happened. I knew the basic story here, but did not know about the total number of pets who died (likely in the thousands), the reasons why melamine was substituted for the wheat gluten (cheap melamine looks like expensive protein when tested using standard industrial tests), nor what happened to the contaminated pet food (it was fed to livestock and made it into the human food chain). This book is a fast read and is clear, well written, and very interesting. Unfortunately, it is too brief. I wish that Ms. Nestle had taken this opportunity to explain more about the pet food industry: its history, the major players, the processes used to make pet food. The story is fascinating, but it feels more like a New Yorker article than a book. I would recommend this book to someone who was interested in the pet food recalls, though I think that most readers should start with other books about food production. Specifically, I would recommend Michael Pollan's excellent *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals* or Marion Nestle's own *What to Eat* before reading this book, to get a feel for how food is produced and to understand some of the politics involved.⁰ of 0 people found the following review helpful. The FDA does not have the resources to protect us from bad practices. The government is not going to step ... By Maureen B. If you wanted to understand what happened in 2007 with the Menu Foods related death of 1000's of animals, you need to read this. The pet food industry is shady. The FDA does not have the resources to protect us from bad practices. The government is not going to step up. 'Big Pet Food' has some political power and, it is almost certain the food you feed your cat or dog is damaging them. well written, detailed book.

Marion Nestle, acclaimed author of *Food Politics*, now tells the gripping story of how, in early 2007, a few telephone calls about sick cats set off the largest recall of consumer products in U.S. history and an international crisis over the safety of imported goods ranging from food to toothpaste, tires, and toys. Nestle follows the trail of tainted pet food ingredients back to their source in China and along the supply chain to their introduction into feed for pigs, chickens, and fish in the United States, Canada, and other countries throughout the world. What begins as a problem "merely" for cats and dogs soon becomes an issue of tremendous concern to everyone. Nestle uncovers unexpected connections among the food supplies for pets, farm animals, and people and identifies glaring gaps in the global oversight of food safety.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . For author and public health professor Nestle (*Food Politics: How the Food Industry Influences Nutrition and Health*), the March 2007 pet food recall was the canary in the coal mine that would lead to a blitz of questions regarding the safety of imported food and goods. Begging comparison with Sinclair's *The Jungle*, Nestle begins with a real-life whodunit, tracing an outbreak of kidney failure deaths among cats and then dogs. A major pet food manufacturer had recently switched wheat gluten suppliers, paying 20 to 30 percent less to a broker importing from China (natch). Soon, it's revealed that two Chinese suppliers were passing off cheaper, toxic additives as gluten. As Nestle demonstrates, it's the tip of the iceberg; unraveling the links among "food safety, health policy, international trade, and the relationship of corporations to government," Nestle examines continuing food scandals, as well as the Chinese toy scare. Nestle finds most fault with the FDA; "still operating under food and drug laws passed in 1906 and modified in 1938," it's a systematically underfunded organization with an ever-increasing mandate and ever-shrinking powers of oversight. Though informative, this quick, clarifying read might easily make you sick to your stomach. Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Idquo; A detective story that identifies plenty of perpetrators as well as victims. . . . [Warns] that the problems wouldn't stop with animalsrdquo;