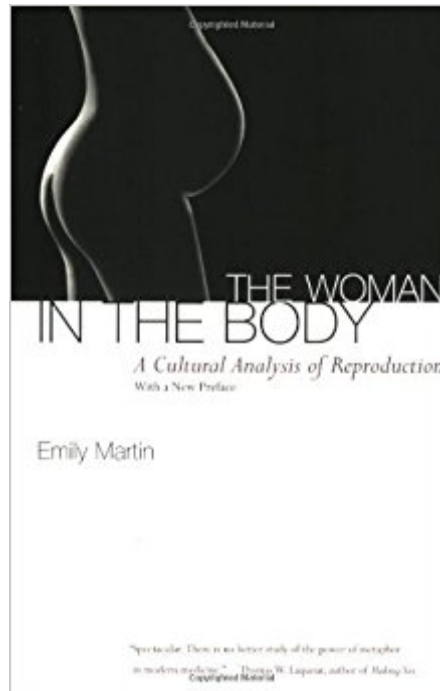




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# **The Woman In The Body: A Cultural Analysis Of Reproduction**



## Synopsis

A bold reappraisal of science and society, *The Woman in the Body* explores the different ways that women's reproduction is seen in American culture. Contrasting the views of medical science with those of ordinary women from diverse social and economic backgrounds, anthropologist Emily Martin presents unique fieldwork on American culture and uncovers the metaphors of economy and alienation that pervade women's imaging of themselves and their bodies. A new preface examines some of the latest medical ideas about women's reproductive cycles.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Spectacular. There is no better study of the power of metaphor in modern medicine. --Thomas W. Laqueur, author of *Making Sex* "One of the greatest strengths of this fascinating book is Martin's careful analysis of how medical language about women's bodies reveals cultural assumptions about women and their life's purpose. . . . Highly recommended." --Judith Walzer Leavitt, *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* "An important contribution. . . . In challenging the status of both bio-medical 'facts' and popular assumptions about women this book will stimulate scholars and students of gender, medicine, and American culture." --*American Ethnologist* "Provocative. . . . Martin's conclusions are ground-breaking." --Julia Epstein, *The Women's Review of Books*

Emily Martin is professor of anthropology at Princeton University and author of *Flexible Bodies: Tracking Immunity in American Culture from the Days of Polio to the Age of AIDS*.

Being a woman still in the child birthing it really opened my eyes how a male dominant world make a woman feel she has no choices! Emily Martin even goes into the aspects of menopause and a woman's period and why some feel so ashamed by it. It definitely is a must read for Anthropology students!

Book was required reading for a class.

Needed for an anthropology class. Good read.

Everything A-OK.

And boy did I feel like a woman reading this one. I didn't finish it though and when I skipped ahead, it started to sound overly analytical and pretentious. However, I can't talk down this anthropologist. She has so much to offer anthropology and is truly gifted in her influential writing, the detailed subject matter, the matter of fact-but still emotional language is intriguing. I wish I could speak to her!

What a great shock. I wish all my future needs can be handled by only you. Sometimes I am a bit hesitant about the review. In a large part, I think it is a hoax. Today I hereby purge myself of that perception. You just did excellently. I am very glad that I have a new look of a supposed used book.

As an Anthropologist who focused for many years on birth and culture this book was important. But more than that side it was important for me to read as a woman. I read it years before i had kids and then again when I was pregnant. It's not meant to be read like that but that was how I reminded myself that what I was going through was natural. I even made non-anthro friends read it and while they get bored easily of this type of stuff most of them found something new that they did like.

Though it may seem a little dated, the issues and questions Martin raises are still relevant today. This thoughtful book speaks to the alienation and detachment many women feel at the hands of modern Western medicine and should be of interest to anyone studying medical anthropology, cultural and anthropology, sociology, or women's studies. Some people may have problems with the methodology or feel that the book is pushing a feminist agenda (personally, I thought the chapter on

PMS was a little muddy) but most people I know who've read it have found something in it that they can relate to even if they don't agree with Martin 100%.

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