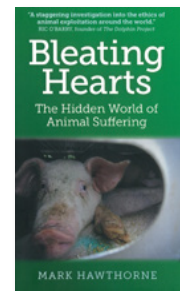


## ENGLISH TEXTS

### Extended Written Texts (Non-Fiction)

Hawthorne, Mark. *Bleating Hearts: The Hidden World of Animal Suffering*. Changemaker Books (2013).  
Extracts from pp. 6 & 7.



Like other compassionate consumers, I've learned a great deal about animal agriculture from reading bestselling books such as *Eating Animals* by Jonathan Safran Foer, *Animal Liberation* by Peter Singer, and *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser, as well as watching documentaries like *Food Inc.* and *Forks Over Knives*. Perhaps you have, too. Now the effects of humanity's hunger for animal products are becoming part of our social consciousness: that factory farming is a leading contributor to global warming,<sup>4</sup> that consuming animal flesh has a detrimental effect on human health, that most meat, egg, and dairy products come from facilities containing thousands of animals (often hundreds of thousands, in the case of the egg industry) who are made to endure such privations as restrictive indoor confinement and the denial of many of their natural behaviors.

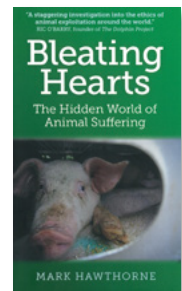
What I did not know until I looked deeper into the animal-to-edible transformation is how horrifying some of the least-known practices can be. I expected death—I did *not* anticipate the extreme disregard for sentient life. As an animal activist explains in *Eating Animals*, "These factory farmers calculate how close to death they can keep the animals without killing them. That's the business model. How quickly can they be made to grow, how tightly can they be packed, how much or little can they eat, how sick can they get without dying."<sup>5</sup> In his book *Farm Sanctuary: Changing Hearts and Minds About Animals and Food*, longtime animal advocate Gene Baur gives readers a heartbreaking account of how the US egg industry disposes of hundreds of millions of unwanted male chicks every year, even grinding them up alive:

I have watched unwanted chicks dumped onto an auger, a large screwlike device that is customarily used for processing grain or sand, then dropped through an opening in the side of a building into a manure spreader outside. I could hear faint chirping as live chicks, many of them horribly injured, were ground up and their feathers, flesh, and blood deposited on cropland as fertilizer. I later walked the field looking for survivors but found only mangled, lifeless bodies among the corn stubble. What stays with me most is the terrible irony of these newly hatched chicks, symbols of spring and rebirth, who'd been driven to fight their way out of their shell by the instinct to live that we all share, only to be ground up alive and turned into manure. And all because, in the industry's eyes, they have no value.<sup>6</sup>

## ENGLISH TEXTS

### Extended Written Texts (Non-Fiction)

Hawthorne, Mark. *Bleating Hearts: The Hidden World of Animal Suffering*. Changemaker Books (2013). Extracts from pp. 7 & 8.



While it's natural for people who learn of these abuses to ask how such things can happen, the reality is most of the cruelties perpetrated against animals raised for food are completely legal. In the United States, so-called Common Farming Exemptions state that as long as a corporation is treating their animals as other corporations do, their actions are generally considered standard within the industry and anti-cruelty laws do not apply. Practices such as confining animals in tiny cages or crates in which they can barely move, cutting off body parts without pain relief, and even dropping them fully conscious into a machine to be pulverized are all as lawful as they are merciless. But that doesn't mean animal exploiters want you to know about it. Indeed, the business of turning sentient beings into consumable products is the world's biggest covert operation, veiled behind walls of corporate greed and protected by special-interest resources. In praise of transparency, the late Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis observed that sunshine is the best disinfectant. Let's bring to light a few of animal agriculture's darkest secrets.

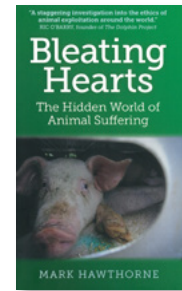
#### Live Fast, Die Young

Looking at the numbers, it's clear that chickens represent by far the most-abused species in the world. Of the estimated 65 billion animals killed in the world each year for food,<sup>7</sup> an astounding 73 percent—47 billion—are chickens.<sup>8</sup> If you find it difficult to wrap your head around that figure, consider it this way: In the time it takes you to read this sentence, more than 16,000 chickens have been slaughtered for food.<sup>9</sup> The percentage is even higher in the United States, where chickens represent about 8.5 billion of the 9 billion land animals slaughtered annually,<sup>10</sup> and not a single one of them is protected by the federal Humane Methods of Slaughter Act, which says that animals killed for food must be rendered insensible to pain, yet excludes poultry. At such high rates—thousands of animals per minute—agribusiness has devised a stunningly abusive system that emphasizes efficiency and speed, pushing cruelty to ever higher extremes. After being transported to a slaughterhouse on an overcrowded truck, chickens are hung upside down by their feet in metal shackles and then given a jolt of electricity so their heads will dangle long enough for a mechanical blade to slice their throats. The birds are likely still conscious as they bleed to death.

## ENGLISH TEXTS

### Extended Written Texts (Non-Fiction)

Hawthorne, Mark. *Bleating Hearts: The Hidden World of Animal Suffering*. Changemaker Books (2013).  
Extracts from pp. 9, 18 & 19.



The industry has also developed a vertically integrated system in which everything involved in the farm-to-fork trade—raising animals, producing feed, transportation, and slaughter—is owned and operated by a single company. In addition to controlling costs, such integration has further removed chickens and other farmed animals from the public consciousness and reduced them to mere commodities. Animals who at one time were at least allowed to graze in a pasture, root in the dirt, or peck in a barnyard are today typically concentrated in small areas and often never feel the sunshine.

#### No Sunny Side to Egg Production

Hold this book open wide. At roughly 93 square inches (600 square centimeters), the area you see spread before you is 26 square inches (167 square centimeters) more space than the average hen has to live on in any battery cage in the United States egg industry.<sup>51</sup> The European Union, which finally increased minimum-space allotments for battery-caged hens in 2012 to 116 square inches (750 square centimeters) per bird, currently offers the world's least-restrictive standard. Space allowances in Brazil, India, and Ukraine are among the worst, with each hen granted from 46.5 to 62 square inches (300 to 400 square centimeters).<sup>52</sup>

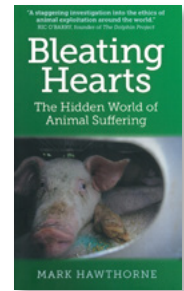
Whatever the allotted area, the floor that hens stand on is made of wire, and the birds are crammed wing-to-wing with six or seven others in an effort to keep industrial-scale egg production as profitable as inhumanly possible. Contrary to the bucolic images found on some retail egg cartons, no sunshine greets these animals in the morning, and they have no chance to enjoy many of their most important natural behaviors, such as nesting, perching, or dust bathing. They are confined 24/7 to cages, stacked one atop another in huge, gloomy sheds and are left unseen by any veterinarian should they become sick.



## ENGLISH TEXTS

### Extended Written Texts (Non-Fiction)

Hawthorne, Mark. *Bleating Hearts: The Hidden World of Animal Suffering*. Changemaker Books (2013). Extracts from pp. 475, 476 & 477.



ME: I believe that most people care deeply about the suffering of animals. When I show my students documentary films that reveal the cruel, inhumane animal husbandry techniques commonplace in today's factory farms, virtually all of them are shocked and horrified at witnessing such inhumane treatment and the terrible suffering that it causes innocent, helpless animals. Many of these students are so upset by the animal suffering they are witnessing that they are actually brought to tears. If people didn't care deeply about animal suffering, they wouldn't be so upset by it. In their reaction papers, nearly all students find the inhumane treatment of animals in factory farms disgusting and morally reprehensible. Moreover, most insist that such treatment of factory-farmed animals ought to be illegal, even if they are personally unwilling to give up eating animal flesh.

If people are naturally empathetic and compassionate where animal suffering is concerned, as I have suggested, then why are some people able to work in factory farms and slaughterhouses and capable of treating animals so inhumanely? The answer, I think, lies in two well-documented psychological phenomena: 1. Desensitization. People tend to become desensitized to what would normally be psychologically distressing experiences through repeated exposure to those experiences. This desensitization process is a defense mechanism that allows us to cope psychologically with such traumatic experiences and events. 2. Deference to authority. People also have a natural tendency to defer to authority figures, even when those authority figures are instructing them to do something that they themselves would ordinarily think wrong, as was demonstrated by Stanley Milgram in his famous experiments on obedience. In one of these experiments, the test subjects were instructed to administer shocks of increasing strength to another human being whenever that other human being answered a multiple choice question incorrectly. Milgram found that 65 percent of the test subjects were willing to administer what they thought were lethal 450-volt shocks to these other human beings, as long as they were instructed to do so by the scientist conducting the experiment. Based on these experiments, Milgram concluded: "Ordinary people, simply doing their jobs, and without any particular hostility on their part, can become agents in a terrible destructive process. Moreover, even when the destructive effects of their work become patently clear, and they are asked to carry out actions incompatible with fundamental standards of morality, relatively few people have the resources needed to resist authority."