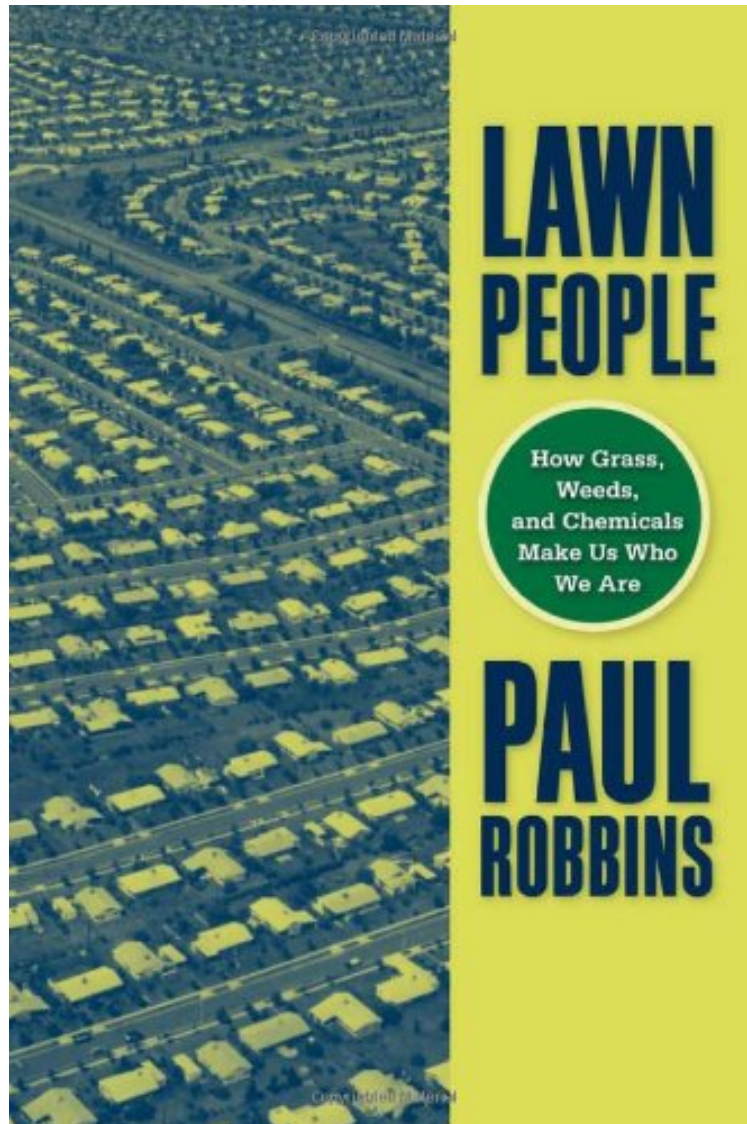


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Lawn People: How Grasses, Weeds, and Chemicals Make Us Who We Are

Paul Robbins

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Paul Robbins : Lawn People: How Grasses, Weeds, and Chemicals Make Us Who We Are before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lawn People: How Grasses, Weeds, and Chemicals Make Us Who We Are:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Like watching a documentary about death and stuff By TENBOUSEver feel a little vain about your home design? That's normal, but are your home maintenance strategies...

well... realistic? Lawns- the fake boobs of american homes. Marketing to the insecure or exploitive toward caring community members? Lawns cost a lot and harm their prior natural environments through destruction, weed killers and fertilizers... in a trickle down manner. A read that reminds you why sociology is a source of educational entertainment. Like watching a documentary about death and stuff. The writing reminded me of freakenomics in numerous ways. 15 of 17 people found the following review helpful. succinct and provocative By ingonyama This is an accessible but theoretically sophisticated study of American lawns, and the reasons why people who are anxious about the effects of lawn chemicals on themselves, their children and their pets (including a woman who put booties on her dog when its paws bled after it walked on a chemically-treated lawn, rather than stopping the chemical treatment!) continue to use lawn chemicals and obsess over having a monocultured turfgrass lawn. Robbins writes with a minimum of jargon and name-dropping -- any undergraduate could easily follow his arguments without much difficulty -- but also quietly engages with actor-network theory, Foucauldian and Gramscian notions of power, hegemony and subject formation, as well as putting ecology into political ecology. It's a book which could sit equally well on an undergraduate or graduate syllabus, which speaks both to its clarity and the sophistication of its analysis. Highly recommended. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Benjamin Interesting read.

For some people, their lawn is a source of pride, and for others, caring for their lawn is a chore. Yet for an increasing number of people, turf care is a cause for ecological anxiety. This text is a comprehensive survey of the American lawn and how caring for it impacts people's lives.

"[Robbins] offers a clever exploration of the political ecology and actor network theory, and a sharp insight into the cynicism of capitalism in the form of the chemical industry. That is a lot for a slim, nicely illustrated and well-written book to achieve, but it does it with style and intelligence... [T]he book is readable and wide-ranging in its arguments...its analysis is relevant wherever suburban values extend... This book should be widely read and discussed." -Environmental Conservation About the Author Paul Robbins is Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Regional Development at the University of Arizona. He is the author of Political Ecology: A Critical Introduction.