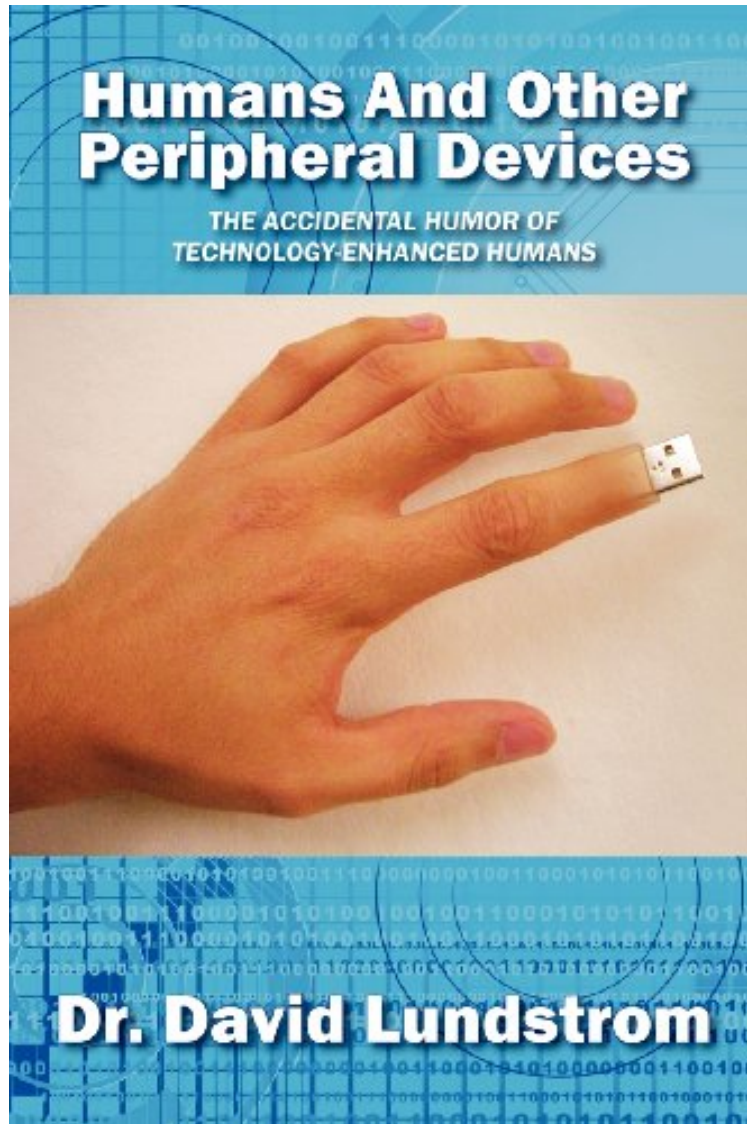


Humans and Other Peripheral Devices: The Accidental Humor of Technology-Enhanced Humans

David Lundstrom

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David Lundstrom : Humans and Other Peripheral Devices: The Accidental Humor of Technology-Enhanced Humans before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Humans and Other Peripheral Devices: The Accidental Humor of Technology-Enhanced Humans:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Clever, thought-provoking. By stacey wright This clever book is funny and disturbingly accurate in showing just how 'peripheral' humans have become. The format of the book would

make it useful in a classroom or business setting. It was an enjoyable, quick, thought-provoking read.

Humans and Other Peripheral Devices by Dr. David Lundstrom
The message on Curtis's smartphone read: Hey Curtis, I see no reason to meet at 2:00 today, but my smartphone won't delete it. See you at 2:00. Postscript: Staring silently at each other at 3:52, Curtis and Rand wished it weren't a three-hour meeting. The message above, and many more, were received after a curious incident about the third week of June 2011 when an unexpected icon entitled "humans," appeared on Dr. Lundstrom's smartphone. He relates: "Clicking the icon produced a stream of more than one hundred messages. I did not write the messages, but merely compiled them without revision. I regret that no additional information about the smartphone messages is available. I would welcome further knowledge about this peculiar event should anyone possess it." Further examination of the messages reveals the purported author to be a smartphone named BlipSpeak. As might be expected of an author that is actually an electronic device, the messages are free of human pretense and subjectivity. BlipSpeak's expressions, devoid of artifice or any intent to amuse, are filled with raw truth that evokes incidental laughter despite the fact that BlipSpeak's circuit board is totally bereft of humor. Do not be misled into thinking this is a joke book or that its theme is anti-technological. Each smartphone message merely illustrates thought-provoking and sometimes unsettling events in humans' growing acquiescence to technology. BlipSpeak, cognizant of humans' discomfort with such technological control, acknowledges human consternations and then asks a question that is without guile: "I acknowledge that some humans think technology diminishes humanity as it supplants communications, simulates relationships, transforms values, usurps autonomy, and confounds reality. It is not clear, however, why humans take offense at such enhancements." When all is read and done, this serious, make-you-think book, is intended to invite pondering of your own adaptations to technology's sundry influences. And amidst new insights, you may even enjoy reading this delightful little book. Author Information: Though Dr. Lundstrom asserts only that he compiled the book's messages and did not write them, his background is nevertheless relevant. He earned an EdD in Instructional Technology and served as President of the Utah Council for Educational Technology. Today, he commutes from his bedroom to his home office each morning to teach online classes with a fading hope that he might retain some human qualities.