

# darnton the great cat massacre

Darnton The Great Cat Massacre: Unraveling a Peculiar Chapter of History

**darnton the great cat massacre** is not just a phrase that piques curiosity due to its oddity but also a window into the complexities of cultural history and social dynamics of 18th-century France. This incident, studied extensively by historian Robert Darnton, goes far beyond the literal act of a cat massacre—it reveals the intricate tensions between workers and their masters, the subtleties of humor, and the ways historical narratives can be interpreted. If you've ever stumbled upon this topic, you might have wondered: what exactly was the Great Cat Massacre, and why does it matter to historians today?

Let's dive deep into this fascinating episode, exploring not only the event itself but also the significant insights it offers into class struggles, folklore, and the art of historical storytelling.

## The Origins of Darnton's Study on the Great Cat Massacre

Robert Darnton, a renowned cultural historian, introduced "The Great Cat Massacre" to many readers through his book titled *\*The Great Cat Massacre and Other Episodes in French Cultural History\**. His work focuses on interpreting historical events through the lens of the common people, especially those whose voices are often lost in traditional history books.

## What Was the Great Cat Massacre?

In the 1730s, in a Parisian printing shop, apprentice printers carried out a bizarre and cruel act: they killed the cats belonging to their masters and neighbors. This wasn't simply an act of animal cruelty but a symbolic rebellion. The apprentices viewed the cats as extensions of their masters' authority, and by massacring them, they expressed their frustration and resistance against oppressive working conditions.

Darnton's exploration of this event reveals a vivid snapshot of life during the Industrial and pre-Industrial eras, highlighting the cultural and social divides between different classes in French society.

## Understanding the Context: 18th-Century

# Parisian Work Culture

To truly grasp the significance of the Great Cat Massacre, it's essential to understand the social environment in which it occurred.

## Life as an Apprentice in a Printing Shop

Apprentices in the 18th century were often young men bound by strict rules and harsh discipline. They worked long hours, received little pay, and were subject to the whims of their masters. The printing trade was highly skilled but demanding, and the apprentices' lives were marked by both monotony and subjugation.

The cats in the story were not just animals; they symbolized the masters' control over the apprentices. Killing the cats was a way of striking back at a system that left apprentices powerless.

## Social Hierarchies and Symbolism

Darnton emphasizes that this event was rich in symbolism. Cats, often associated with independence and mystery, were ironically the pets of the masters, who used them to maintain order and intimidate the apprentices. The massacre represented a subversive form of humor and protest, blending cruelty with a dark sense of camaraderie among the apprentices.

This event also highlights how humor and rituals functioned as coping mechanisms for oppressed groups in history.

## Why Darnton the Great Cat Massacre Matters in Historical Studies

Darnton's investigation into this peculiar incident opened new pathways for historians interested in cultural history and the history of everyday life.

## Reinterpreting Historical Narratives

Traditionally, history focused on kings, wars, and political events. Darnton's work sheds light on the experiences of ordinary people, their beliefs, and how they used symbolic actions to communicate resistance. The Great Cat Massacre becomes a case study in understanding how marginalized groups expressed dissent in covert ways.

# **The Role of Folklore and Oral Traditions**

Darnton relied heavily on what might be considered “unofficial” historical sources: folklore, popular tales, and oral histories. These sources, often overlooked, provide a richer, more nuanced picture of the past, showing how culture and social dynamics operated at the grassroots level.

## **Darnton the Great Cat Massacre and the Study of Humor in History**

One of the most fascinating aspects of this event is its connection to humor, particularly the dark and ironic humor that apprentices used to cope with their harsh realities.

### **Humor as a Form of Resistance**

The cat massacre wasn't just a violent act; it was performed with a sense of ritualistic humor, mocking their masters and the societal order. By laughing at authority figures and their symbols, the apprentices found a way to reclaim some control over their lives.

This use of humor as a weapon against power structures continues to be a relevant topic in social and cultural studies today.

### **Interpreting Humor Across Time**

Darnton's analysis also warns us about the challenges of interpreting historical humor. What seemed funny or meaningful to 18th-century apprentices might be shocking or confusing to modern readers. This reminds historians and readers alike to consider cultural context carefully before judging past events.

## **The Broader Implications of Darnton the Great Cat Massacre**

The event, while seemingly minor and strange, holds broader implications for the study of history, labor relations, and cultural expression.

# Insights into Class Struggle

The Great Cat Massacre symbolizes the tensions between workers and employers that have echoed throughout history. It's an early example of how subordinate groups find creative ways to resist exploitation.

## Lessons for Modern Historians

Darnton's approach encourages historians to look beyond official documents and seek stories that reveal the lived experiences of ordinary people. It also highlights the importance of understanding cultural symbols and social rituals in interpreting historical events.

## Ethical Reflections on Historical Cruelty

While the apprentices' act was a form of rebellion, it also involved cruelty to animals, which raises ethical questions. Modern readers might struggle with this contradiction, but it offers a chance to reflect on how social pressures and injustices influence human behavior.

## Exploring Further: Related Cultural and Historical Topics

For those intrigued by Darnton the Great Cat Massacre, there are several related areas worth exploring to deepen understanding.

- **History of Labor Movements:** Understanding how workers have historically resisted exploitation through strikes, protests, and symbolic acts.
- **Popular Culture in 18th-Century France:** Examining how folklore, songs, and street performances reflected social realities.
- **Animal Symbolism in History:** How animals have been used as metaphors and symbols in various cultures and epochs.
- **Cultural History Methodologies:** Learning about how historians use non-traditional sources to reconstruct everyday life.

# Bringing Darnton the Great Cat Massacre Into Today's Conversations

The lessons from this historical episode resonate even in contemporary society. Today, workers around the world continue to seek creative and symbolic ways to express dissatisfaction with working conditions. The Great Cat Massacre reminds us that beneath the surface of seemingly strange or trivial events, there can be profound stories about power, resistance, and human resilience.

Moreover, Darnton's work teaches us the importance of empathy and context in understanding historical actions that may seem bizarre or unsettling to modern sensibilities.

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Darnton the Great Cat Massacre remains a compelling example of how history can be uncovered and interpreted through the lens of cultural expression and social conflict. It invites us to look beyond official records and consider the hidden narratives that shape human experience. Whether you are a student of history, a cultural enthusiast, or simply curious, this episode offers an unforgettable glimpse into the complexities of the past.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is 'The Great Cat Massacre' by Robert Darnton about?

'The Great Cat Massacre' is a historical study by Robert Darnton that explores an unusual event in 1730s Paris, where apprentice printers killed cats in a symbolic protest, revealing insights into the culture and social tensions of the time.

### Who is Robert Darnton?

Robert Darnton is an American historian specializing in the history of books and early modern Europe, best known for his work 'The Great Cat Massacre,' which examines cultural history through a unique event.

### Why is the event called 'The Great Cat Massacre'?

The event is called 'The Great Cat Massacre' because it involved the killing of numerous cats by apprentice printers in 18th-century Paris as a form of social protest and symbolic rebellion against their masters.

## **What does 'The Great Cat Massacre' reveal about 18th-century French society?**

'The Great Cat Massacre' reveals the complex social hierarchies, worker-master relationships, and cultural attitudes of 18th-century French society, illustrating how humor and protest were used by apprentices to cope with oppression.

## **How does Darnton interpret the apprentices' killing of cats?**

Darnton interprets the killing of cats as a symbolic act of resistance and a form of social commentary by the apprentices, reflecting their feelings of powerlessness and their critique of authority figures.

## **What methodology does Darnton use in 'The Great Cat Massacre'?**

Darnton uses microhistory and cultural history methodologies, analyzing court records, contemporaneous writings, and cultural context to understand the meaning behind the event and the mentalities of the people involved.

## **Why is 'The Great Cat Massacre' significant in historical studies?**

It is significant because it demonstrates how seemingly bizarre events can provide deep insights into cultural and social history, challenging traditional historical narratives and emphasizing the importance of understanding mentalities.

## **What role do cats play in the narrative of 'The Great Cat Massacre'?**

Cats symbolize the apprentices' oppression and the masters' authority; the massacre of cats serves as a metaphor for the apprentices' rebellion against their harsh working conditions and social subjugation.

## **How has 'The Great Cat Massacre' influenced the field of history?**

'The Great Cat Massacre' has influenced historians to pay closer attention to cultural symbols, everyday life, and the perspectives of marginalized groups, promoting a more nuanced and empathetic approach to historical research.

# Can 'The Great Cat Massacre' be seen as a form of protest?

Yes, the killing of the cats can be interpreted as a subversive form of protest by the apprentices against their masters and the social order, using humor and symbolic violence to express their grievances.

## Additional Resources

Darnton The Great Cat Massacre: An Investigative Review of a Historical Enigma

**Darnton the great cat massacre** refers to a compelling and controversial historical event recounted by Robert Darnton, a prominent cultural historian and scholar. This episode, known as "The Great Cat Massacre," is a vivid case study from 18th-century France that sheds light on the complexities of social history, worker culture, and the divergent perceptions between classes. Darnton's exploration of this event delves far beyond the literal killing of cats, unraveling the symbolic meanings and social tensions embedded in this peculiar episode.

## The Origin and Significance of "The Great Cat Massacre"

The story of the Great Cat Massacre originates from a peculiar incident in Paris during the 1730s. Apprentices working in a print shop began systematically killing cats, including their master's prized pet, as an act of protest and dark humor. At first glance, this might appear as mere cruelty or madness, but Darnton's analysis reveals a deeper social commentary expressed through this act.

Darnton's approach to the Great Cat Massacre is grounded in his expertise in cultural history, which involves interpreting historical events through the lens of popular culture, folklore, and class relations. By examining trial records, personal narratives, and contemporary accounts, Darnton reconstructs the apprentices' mindset and motivations, offering insight into the dissonance between the ruling classes and the working class during the Enlightenment period.

## Darnton's Methodology and Historical Context

Robert Darnton's investigation into the Great Cat Massacre demonstrates a meticulous approach to primary sources and cultural interpretation. His methodology involves:

- Analyzing court documents and eyewitness testimonies from the 18th century
- Contextualizing the apprentices' actions within the social hierarchy of Paris
- Interpreting symbolic meanings behind the act of killing cats
- Examining the role of humor and satire in working-class resistance

In the context of 18th-century France, apprentices occupied a precarious social position. They were subject to harsh discipline, long working hours, and little autonomy, often treated with disdain by their masters. The cats, particularly the master's beloved one, symbolized authority and privilege. Thus, the massacre was not only an act of cruelty but a form of social protest—a subversive expression of the apprentices' frustrations.

## The Cultural and Social Implications of the Incident

Darnton interprets the Great Cat Massacre as a window into the social tensions simmering beneath the surface of pre-revolutionary France. The apprentices' act of slaughtering cats can be seen as a coded critique of their masters' power and the inequities of the guild system. This event reveals:

- **Class antagonism:** The apprentices' actions symbolized resentment toward the masters' authority and the hierarchical structure of the workplace.
- **Popular humor:** The massacre was accompanied by dark humor and satire, a way for the apprentices to cope with oppression.
- **Symbolism:** Cats symbolized both domestic control and social order, making their massacre a symbolic rebellion.

Darnton's interpretation challenges conventional historical narratives that often overlook the perspectives of lower social classes. By focusing on the apprentices' viewpoint, he brings to light the complexities of everyday life and resistance in historical societies.

## Darnton's Impact on Cultural History and

# Historiography

The publication of Darnton's study of the Great Cat Massacre significantly influenced the field of cultural history. It exemplifies a shift toward understanding history through the lens of mentalities, popular culture, and symbolic actions rather than purely political or economic events.

## Shaping the Study of Popular Culture and Worker Mentalities

Darnton's work highlights how seemingly trivial or bizarre events can reveal profound insights into social dynamics. His study encourages historians to consider:

- The importance of cultural symbols and rituals in shaping group identity
- How humor and satire function as tools of resistance within oppressed communities
- The value of interpreting historical sources with sensitivity to cultural context

This approach opened new avenues for historiographical debates, encouraging scholars to integrate anthropology, folklore, and literary analysis into historical research.

## Comparisons with Other Historical Interpretations

Unlike traditional political histories that emphasize revolutions and elite decision-making, Darnton's interpretation aligns with subaltern studies and social history trends. It shares affinities with other works that explore:

- Worker protests and symbolic acts of defiance
- The role of popular culture in shaping historical consciousness
- Conflict between social classes expressed through everyday life rather than formal political arenas

Such comparisons underscore the importance of interdisciplinary methods and

the inclusion of marginalized voices in historical narratives.

## Analyzing the Pros and Cons of Darnton's Interpretation

While Darnton's interpretation of the Great Cat Massacre has been widely praised for its originality and depth, it has also invited critical scrutiny.

### Strengths of Darnton's Analysis

- **Innovative cultural perspective:** Darnton's focus on symbolism and humor provides a nuanced understanding of social tensions.
- **Use of primary sources:** His reliance on contemporary accounts lends credibility and authenticity to his interpretation.
- **Broad relevance:** The study informs broader discussions on class relations and resistance across historical contexts.

### Criticisms and Limitations

- **Potential overinterpretation:** Some critics argue that Darnton may project modern interpretations onto historical actions.
- **Limited source diversity:** The available sources primarily reflect the apprentices' perspective, potentially skewing the narrative.
- **Symbolic ambiguity:** The exact meanings behind the cat massacre remain speculative and open to alternative readings.

Despite these criticisms, Darnton's work remains influential, serving as a foundational text in cultural and social history.

## Legacy of the Great Cat Massacre in Modern Scholarship

The Great Cat Massacre continues to inspire historians, anthropologists, and literary scholars alike. Darnton's study is frequently cited in discussions about:

- The role of humor in social and political resistance
- Interpreting subcultural rituals and symbolic violence
- Bridging the gap between elite and popular histories

Moreover, the event has transcended academic circles, becoming a metaphor for misunderstood or marginalized historical narratives that challenge dominant paradigms.

In sum, Darnton the great cat massacre stands as a testament to the power of cultural history to reveal hidden dimensions of the past. Through meticulous research and thoughtful interpretation, Darnton invites readers to reconsider how everyday acts—no matter how strange they may seem—can embody profound social meanings. This approach not only enriches our understanding of history but also underscores the importance of empathy and nuance in interpreting human behavior across time.

## [Darnton The Great Cat Massacre](#)

**darnton the great cat massacre:** *The Great Cat Massacre* Robert Darnton, 2009-05-12 The landmark history of France and French culture in the eighteenth-century, a winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize When the apprentices of a Paris printing shop in the 1730s held a series of mock trials and then hanged all the cats they could lay their hands on, why did they find it so hilariously funny that they choked with laughter when they reenacted it in pantomime some twenty times? Why in the eighteenth-century version of Little Red Riding Hood did the wolf eat the child at the end? What did the anonymous townsman of Montpellier have in mind when he kept an exhaustive dossier on all the activities of his native city? These are some of the provocative questions the distinguished Harvard historian Robert Darnton answers *The Great Cat Massacre*, a kaleidoscopic view of European culture during in what we like to call The Age of Enlightenment. A classic of European history, it is an essential starting point for understanding Enlightenment France.

**darnton the great cat massacre:** *New York Magazine* , 1984-02-27 New York magazine was born in 1968 after a run as an insert of the New York Herald Tribune and quickly made a place for itself as the trusted resource for readers across the country. With award-winning writing and photography covering everything from politics and food to theater and fashion, the magazine's consistent mission has been to reflect back to its audience the energy and excitement of the city itself, while celebrating New York as both a place and an idea.

**darnton the great cat massacre:** *The Great Cat Massacre and Other Episodes in French Cultural History* , 2001

**darnton the great cat massacre:** *Rethinking Popular Culture* Chandra Mukerji, Michael Schudson, 1991-07-09 *Rethinking Popular Culture* presents some of the most important current

scholarship analyzing popular culture. Drawing upon recent developments in cultural theory and exciting new methods of critical analysis, the essays in this volume break down disciplinary boundaries and offer fresh insight into popular culture.

**darnton the great cat massacre: *The Great Cat Massacre*** Robert Darnton, 2000-02-17 In this dazzling series of essays, Robert Darnton exhumes the strange and wonderful world views of the ordinary and extraordinary people inhabiting the cities, towns, and countryside of France in what we like to call "The Age of Enlightenment."

**darnton the great cat massacre: *Picturing the Beast*** Steve Baker, 2001 Explores how human beings use animals and images of animals to define themselves--and how those depictions interfere with our abilities to understand the true nature of animals.

**darnton the great cat massacre: *History, Theory, Text*** Elizabeth A. Clark, 2004-10-30 A historian of early Christianity considers various theoretical critiques to examine the problems and opportunities posed by the ways in which history is written. Clark argues for a renewal of the study of premodern Western history through engagement with the critical methods that have transformed other humanities disciplines in recent decades.

**darnton the great cat massacre: *Social Theory and Social History*** Donald MacRaild, Avram Taylor, 2017-03-14 The expansion of social history that took place in the twentieth century has produced some of the most exciting works in the field of historical studies. As the range of the social historian's concerns has grown, so has the range of methodologies and theoretical approaches they employ. Historians have made greater use of the theoretical insights of social scientists, and boundaries between the disciplines have become blurred as a consequence. *Social Theory and Social History*: - Covers the major developments within social history - Offers an introduction to the most important social theorists - Discusses the relationship between history and the social sciences - Considers the use of theory in the writing of history - Examines current debates within historiography In this concise introductory guide, Donald M. MacRaild and Avram Taylor explore the complex relationship between social theory and social history, arguing that an awareness of the relation between the two is the key to a deeper understanding of the process of historical change.

**darnton the great cat massacre: *Culture, Capital and Carnival*** Will Kitchen, 2025-08-07 *Culture, Capital and Carnival* offers an interdisciplinary examination of how modern culture contextualises the values of labour. How do the stories we consume represent work and shape its meaning in our lives? How has the history of modern art, critique and cultural production negotiated the idea of labour and the behaviours and beliefs which give it legitimacy and coherence? Beginning with a critique of Mikhail Bakhtin's notion of the 'carnavalesque', *Culture, Capital and Carnival* examines a diverse array of multimedia texts from the era of modern capitalism - including a mixture of canonical and culturally impactful novels, short stories, non-fiction, films and TV sitcoms - and addresses the various ideological tensions surrounding the representation of work. Individual chapters look at how culture's various attempts to 'carnivalize' the values of labour can be challenged and ask whether critical representations can also perpetuate the values they seek to negate. By extending the author's previous work on the contemporary reinterpretation of Romanticism as an expansive modern phenomenon, *Culture, Capital and Carnival* adopts a radical critical perspective to explain how media products in the age of neoliberal capitalism can 'carnivalize' the values of modern capitalist labour even as they undermine economic and political freedom.

**darnton the great cat massacre: *History and Causality*** M. Hewitson, 2014-01-22 This volume investigates the different attitudes of historians and other social scientists to questions of causality. It argues that historical theorists after the linguistic turn have paid surprisingly little attention to causes in spite of the centrality of causation in many contemporary works of history.

**darnton the great cat massacre: *Early Modernity and Mobility*** Sebouh David Aslanian, 2023-01-01 A history of the continent-spanning Armenian print tradition in the early modern period *Early Modernity and Mobility* explores the disparate yet connected histories of Armenian printing establishments in early modern Europe and Asia. From 1512, when the first Armenian printed codex

appeared in Venice, to the end of the early modern period in 1800, Armenian presses operated in nineteen locations across the Armenian diaspora. Linking far-flung locations in Amsterdam, Livorno, Marseille, Saint Petersburg, and Astrakhan to New Julfa, Madras, and Calcutta, Armenian presses published a thousand editions with more than half a million printed volumes in Armenian script. Drawing on extensive archival research, Sebouh David Aslanian explores why certain books were published at certain times, how books were sold across the diaspora, who read them, and how the printed word helped fashion a new collective identity for early modern Armenians. In examining the Armenian print tradition Aslanian tells a larger story about the making of the diaspora itself. Arguing that confessionalism and the hardening of boundaries between the Armenian and Roman churches was the driving engine of Armenian book history, Aslanian makes a revisionist contribution to the early modern origins of Armenian nationalism.

**darnton the great cat massacre: *The French Book Trade in Enlightenment Europe II*** Simon Burrows, 2018-08-09 This is a rich and path-breaking comparative study of reading tastes in the final years of old regime Europe. Based on extensive research in the account books of the Swiss publishers, the Société Typographique de Neuchâtel (STN), and related archives, it charts the dissemination of literature and reading tastes across Europe in the years leading up to the French revolution. In the process, it recasts our understanding of late 18th-century print culture and the contours of the enlightenment. The fruit of a widely acclaimed five year database project, the STN database, it is also a story of pioneering efforts to apply the latest digital technology and GIS mapping techniques to traditional historical and bibliographic problems. Although written to serve as a standalone study, this book is ideally complemented by its companion volume, Mark Curran's *The French Book Trade in Enlightenment Europe I: Selling Enlightenment*, which offers a radical reinterpretation of the structure and practices of the European book trade. The STN database is now recognised as a cutting-edge digital project of global significance. Robert Darnton has called it a prodigious accomplishment and a joy to use while Jeremy Popkin adds, No one working in the field of French Enlightenment studies ... can afford to ignore the rich mine of data that Simon Burrows and his collaborators have made accessible, in an eminently usable form, and the new possibilities it opens up for scholars. *The French Book Trade in Enlightenment Europe I and II* offer a roadmap of that data and what it can show us.

**darnton the great cat massacre: *Adam and Eve in the Protestant Reformation*** Kathleen M. Crowther, 2010-10-11 Explores the importance of stories about Adam and Eve in sixteenth-century German Lutheran areas.

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**darnton the great cat massacre: *Handbook of Historical Animal Studies*** Mieke Roscher, André Krebber, Brett Mizelle, 2021-06-08 The handbook provides a comprehensive evaluation of approaches, topics and research areas of the rapidly developing field of Historical Animal Studies. The so called 'animal turn' specifically inspired new takes on writing history. This upsurge in research has led to immense amounts of new empirical studies as well as approaches to historiography, which this handbook aims to systemize.

**darnton the great cat massacre: History and Cultural Theory** Simon Gunn, 2014-05-22 In recent times there has been recognition of the growing influence of cultural theory on historical writing. Foucault, Bourdieu, Butler and Spivak are just some of the thinkers whose ideas have been taken up and deployed by historians. What are these ideas and where do they come from? How have cultural theorists thought about 'history'? And how have historians applied theoretical insights to enhance their own understanding of events in the past? This book provides a wide-ranging and authoritative guide to the often vexed and controversial relationship between history and contemporary theory. It analyses the concepts that concern both theorists and historians, such as power, identity, modernity and postcolonialism, and offers a critical evaluation of them from an historical standpoint. Written in an accessible manner, *History and Cultural Theory* gives historians and students an invaluable summary of the impact of cultural theory on historiography over the last twenty years, and indicates the likely directions of the subject in the future.

**darnton the great cat massacre: Oedipus and the Devil** Lyndal Roper, 2013-03-01 This bold and imaginative book marks out a different route towards understanding the body, and its relationship to culture and subjectivity. Amongst other subjects, Lyndal Roper deals with the nature of masculinity and femininity.

**darnton the great cat massacre: New Critical Thinking** Julian Wolfreys, 2017-06-02 Introduces advanced students of literature to the latest critical thinking Following a scene-setting Introduction which reflects on the state of theory today, the 11 chapters in this volume introduce new areas of critical thinking which go beyond the standard aisms: Literary Reading in a Digital Age; Critical Making in the Digital Humanities; Thing Theory; Memory Work and Criticism; Body, Objects, Technology; Criticism and the Animal; Multimodality and Linguistic Approaches to Literary Study; Critical and Creative Practice: Conditions for Success in the Writing Workshop; Affect Theory; Spectrality; Critical Climate Change. A final rounding off chapter on Historicising presents debates around historically oriented criticism, including a round table among the contributors. Each chapter also provides a critical case study of a text or texts, including poetry writing guides, a Seamus Heaney poem, film adaptations of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* and Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, e-readers and kindles, First World War poetry and prose, steampunk, and Robert Macfarlane's *The Old Ways*. From Thing Theory to animal theory, multimodality to film adaptation, and from acts of reading in a digital age to the creative writing workshop, the volume reflects a radical reorientation in critical modes of thinking. Key Features: Presents cutting-edge debates presented to more advanced students in an engaging yet sophisticated way Provides a wide range of case studies including poetry, film, reading devices, popular fiction & non-fiction prose Reflects newly emerging ways of teaching critical ideas in the classroom Opens criticism to dialogue and possibility

**darnton the great cat massacre: Palgrave Advances in Intellectual History** R. Whatmore, B. Young, 2006-05-26 The past three decades have seen a remarkable growth of interest in intellectual history and this book provides the first comprehensive survey of recent research in this field. Each chapter considers developments in intellectual history, and shows the ways intellectual historians have contributed to more established disciplinary enquiries.

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