

In 'Tamed', Roberts takes a look at the domestication of dogs, wheat, cattle, maize, potatoes, chickens, rice, horses and apples, concluding with a last chapter on humans. It is filled with up-to-date scientific research – the prospect of which, frankly, initially terrified those of us without a scientific background. However, Roberts writes so well that it's possible to cheat and skip over the 'hard' bits but still understand and more importantly, enjoy what she has to tell us. The last sentence of the book serves as a useful summary, "There are divisions here between the wild and the domesticated, the untamed and the tamed. But in the end, it's all one: a tangled bank, beautifully intertwined for eternity."