



Vehicles: Cars, Canoes and Other Metaphors of Moral Imagination (Hardback)

By -

Berghahn Books, United Kingdom, 2014. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Metaphor, as an act of human fancy, combines ideas in improbable ways to sharpen meanings of life and experience. Theoretically, this arises from an association between a sign - for example, a cattle car - and its referent, the Holocaust. These sign-vehicles serve as modes of semiotic transportation through conceptual space. Likewise, on-the-ground vehicles can be rich metaphors for the moral imagination. Following on this insight, Vehicles presents a collection of ethnographic essays on the metaphoric significance of vehicles in different cultures. Analyses include canoes in Papua New Guinea, pedestrians and airplanes in North America, lowriders among Mexican-Americans, and cars in contemporary China, Japan, and Eastern Europe, as well as among African-Americans in the South. Vehicles not only carry people around, but also carry how they are understood in relation to the dynamics of culture, politics and history.

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