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Me The Cyborg Self and the Networked City

By William J. Mitchell

The MIT Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 269 pages. Dimensions: 8.6in. x 5.6in. x 0.6in. With Me the author of City of Bits and e-topia completes an informal trilogy examining the ramifications of information technology in everyday life. William Mitchell describes the transformation of wireless technology in the hundred years since Marconi--the scaling up of networks and the scaling down of the apparatus for transmission and reception. It is, he says, as if Brobdingnag had been rebooted as Lilliput; Marconis massive mechanism of tower and kerosene engine has been replaced by a palm-size cellphone. If the operators of Marconis invention can be seen as human appendages to an immobile machine, today's hand-held devices can be seen as extensions of the human body. This transformation has, in turn, changed our relationship with our surroundings and with each other. The cellphone calls from the collapsing World Trade Center towers and the hijacked jets on September 11 were testimony to the intensity of this new state of continuous electronic engagement. Thus, Mitchell proposes, the trial separation of bits (the elementary unit of information) and atoms (the elementary unit of matter) is over. With increasing frequency, events in physical space reflect events in cyberspace,...



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