Turkle does a magnificent job in illustrating the human persona while online. As our culture becomes more and more internet dependent, and it becomes easier to be a globalized person, psychological changes are sure to take effect. Life On the Screen is illustrated with some wry humor, as well as vivid examples. Sometimes doing something online makes it seem less real. For instance, carding something—aka using a fake credit card number—is less real if you do it online, to order something, than it is to waltz into say, BestBuy and using a fake credit card there. Just because you do it in a non-physical area (what is Cyberspace made up of, anyway?) does not mean that it is still not a crime, and that it is still not capable of having repercussions. Shirley Turkle captures precisely what someone, as a user and interacter with the internet, thinks, and does while online. She acknowledges the existence of the internet being a place where people are able to forge cyber-identities...or get more comfortable being who they are. She also outlines something that is perhaps one of the most secure things about the internet in this day and age—that on the internet, you are anonymous. Therefore, you can do what you wish (good or bad) and you can interact with others via MUDs or the like...or you can decide exactly how people will think of you as. The internet is a secure medium for an insecure person. It is where many people who feel unaccepted in life go as refuge, to seek friends and partners who are like them, and who understand. This is also recognized in this book. I highly recommend anyone, either the hacker, or the suit, or the working mother, or the teenager, to pick up this book and just to start reading. It is disturbing, almost, to find that there are so many people who interact with the internet, and so many different things that they do. The globalization that comes along with the net provokes you to start rethinking many things, and questioning many others....The internet, as portrayed in this book, also helps the reader to truly examine themselves as a whole.

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