

## II

### Bodies

In this section the focus shifts to bodies and species, moving from the fascination with border species, between nature and culture, and the cognitive abilities of non-human animals to futuristic speculations about humans in outer space. The key argument is that the issue of human essence needs to be problematized and reframed in relational, pragmatic terms. Recent theoretical developments in anthropology, sociology, and biology – developments often associated with the notions of biosociality, nature-cultures, embodiment, and entanglement – contribute to the growing evidence of an expanded and relational body. While anthropology and, indeed, most of the social sciences have, almost by definition, tended to focus on the relations of *humans*, in recent years the discursive division between humans and non-human animals has been increasingly blurred.

