Since the dawn of human civilization, forests have provided us with food, resources, and energy. The history of human development is also one of forest loss and transformation, and yet despite our increasingly urbanized societies, we remain surprisingly dependent on forests and they retain a remarkable hold on our environmental values. Forests: A Very Short Introduction explores our contrasting interactions with forests, as well as their origins, dynamics, and the range of goods and services they provide to human society. It concludes with an examination of the recent history of deforestation, transitions to reforestation, and the future outlook for forests particularly in the context of expected climate and land use changes.