

# **A History of Transhumanism**

By

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## Statement of Originality

*This work has not previously been submitted for a degree or diploma in any university. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the thesis contains no material previously published or written by another person except where due reference is made in the thesis itself.*

Signed:



Elise Bohan

Date: 30/11/2018

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*Humanity looks to me like a magnificent beginning but not the last word.*

—FREEMAN DYSON



## **Abstract**

This thesis presents the first book-length history of transhumanism. I trace the roots of proto-transhumanist thinking back to the Scientific Revolution and explore major examples of proto-transhumanist thought up to the late twentieth century. I then chronicle the origin and evolution of the first modern transhumanist movements and ideas. Finally, I demonstrate that transhumanist ideas and technologies are now fundamental features of the modern world and argue that we should take them very seriously, as they have the potential to profoundly influence how the human future unfolds.