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Despite its popular image as a vast and forbidding tropical forest frontier, Amazonia has undergone a significant urban transformation since the late 1970s. Rainforest Cities is the first comprehensive analysis of the regional urbanization process underway in the Brazilian Amazon. Drawing on comparative household and sectoral survey research, John Browder and Brian Godfrey find that the growth of Amazon cities fits no single current theory of urbanization instead they propose a pluralistic theory of "disarticulated urbanization" to explain the region's varied and volatile settlement patterns. Rainforest Cities represents a valuable contribution to our current knowledge of regional development and environmental studies and will be of interest to urban planners, geographers, Amazon regional specialists, and interdisciplinary students of international development.

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