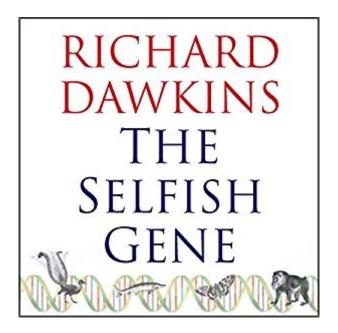


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The Selfish Gene





Synopsis

Richard Dawkins' brilliant reformulation of the theory of natural selection has the rare distinction of having provoked as much excitement and interest outside the scientific community as within it. His theories have helped change the whole nature of the study of social biology, and have forced thousands to rethink their beliefs about life. In his internationally best-selling, now classic, volume, The Selfish Gene, Dawkins explains how the selfish gene can also be a subtle gene. The world of the selfish gene revolves around savage competition, ruthless exploitation, and deceit, and yet, Dawkins argues, acts of apparent altruism do exist in nature. Bees, for example, will commit suicide when they sting to protect the hive, and birds will risk their lives to warn the flock of an approaching hawk.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 16 hoursà andà Â 16 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Audible Studios

Audible.com Release Date: March 29, 2011

Language: English

ASIN: B004U8NB2M

Best Sellers Rank: #5 inà Â Books > Medical Books > Basic Sciences > Genetics #16

inà Books > Science & Math > Evolution #18 inà Â Books > Science & Math > Technology

Customer Reviews

2017/08This is the 3rd time I read this book. Every time I come back reading it, I see something I didn't realize that it's there for a reason (from previous reading experience). The book is written in a way that left the reader curiosity gradually getting bigger and want to know more and more. You'll also see how Prof. Dawkins' different approach on seeing things. Keep in mind that this book is written long time ago, probably before you were born. You'll be amazed by the facts that you experience in your life predicted exactly how Prof. Dawkins selfish gene theory explained; and yet even if he didn't demand a dogmatic understanding but you'll find it's hard to deny and be critical on things explained and written so many years ago. Each chapter you read, highly correlated, strongly supporting arguments, evidences on ideas in the other chapters, explains the manifesto of your genes. I keep going back and forth chapters to chapters just to drop my jaw and think "omgeee he is

right". It's brilliant. MUST READ!!! I wish I had read it long time ago when it's first published. For all of you who never read this book, I challenge you to proof him wrong.

Dawkins writes this book in a very clear and easy to understand way. This is good for someone like me, who prior to reading the book had little to no knowledge on genetics, or anything else on the subject. While his writing can be a little dry, as I expected it would be from a book on this subject, it was never a struggle to get through. He writes it in an accommodating way that allows those less knowledgable on the subject to understand what is going on, without any difficult to understand lingo on the subject that I would perhaps struggle with. In each chapter he focuses on a subject to help us better understand what he is trying to tell us about our genetic tendencies, but he does this in a way that is a little unusual. Many of the chapter $\tilde{A}f\tilde{A}\phi\tilde{A}$ \hat{a} $\neg\tilde{A}$ $\hat{a}_n\phi$ s focuses are on things that are unrelated to the specific topic of the book. While there are things that are related, like how DNA is formed, to more unrelated ones like what cases certain sexual partners are attracted to one another. This works pretty well and helps to bring his point across. All in all, the book left me feeling better educated on a range of topics addressed in the book, as well as in the selfishness of our genes.

You definitely want to get the 30th Anniversary version, for updates to original concepts. Although, I am definitely a layman, from a scholars mindset, I was able to follow the concepts being laid out in the book, for the most part, and found it amazing that in essence "we" are merely vehicles evolved out of the primordial gene pool, around our genes to protect them, in order for them to continue "replicating". I am sure as science continues to learn more and more about genes and DNA we may see further tweaks, but for the most part, Richard Dawkins theories have stood the test of time (or at least the past 30 years, during which more research has been done around these topics).

I have to say that, this book as the author mentions, its a book related to zoology, I'm a student who have been largely interested in genetics and its behaviours. And the way he goes to explain how altruism is not really related to group benefit necessarily its compelling. I love it.

Clear and entertaining explanation of one of the two most important scientific breakthrough in natural sciences, the other being Einstein's General Relativity. Dawkins does not claim to have everything figured out but their arguments are very convincing... it's a must read!

This book gives a me a whole different perspective of viewing the world, humans/animals, religions,

culture, everything. How we are driven consciously/unconsciously by our genes, how relationship, sex, society and our entire value system are built upon. I have to say this book changed my life. If you only read 10 books in your adult life, this is the top 3 on the list.

Thank you

Good read!

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