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Dr Sharon Moalem,Jonathan Prince

267 pages

HarperCollins Publishers Inc

9780060889661

English

New York, NY, United States

Read again in '08 for f2f discussion group. This book is full of "fun" facts like this. A wonderful, funny, warm, honest book, and, to use a much overused word, a classic. The author also goes off on some random tangents that I found distracting. If people who have favism, and thus lack the G6PD enzyme, eat fava beans it can result in death due to sudden anemia. Please, Dr. It's the only thing that will stop you dying tomorrow. This is my attempt to explain why without sounding like a ranting lunatic. Preview — Survival of the Sickest by Sharon Moalem. Feb 11, Travis rated it liked it. I would suggest it to anyone who needs a break from their "novel" reading. Moalem 87, my italics The logical fallacy here is one produced by not taking into account all of the variables present. In many experiments still controversial today, researchers have found that jumping genes as well as regular genes seem to respond to environmental factors and can order up a faster mutation rate or increased need for genes to jump and fix a problem. Moalem indicates that all life forms need iron to live and proliferate and that many illnesses are able to overtake the immune system by absorbing the iron present in the macrophages sent to kill them. My other main complaint is the reliance on speculative sources rather than sources where someone has done the actual experiments and gotten actual results one way or the other. The author has 'Dr' in front of their name on the front cover, which should have raised alarm bells long ago. Sharon Moalem is an award-winning neurologist and evolutionary biologist, with a PhD in human physiology. Published February 6th by William Morrow first published A little wordy or slow at times, but an informative, engaging read. From w This is a fascinating read. Every organism on earth has the same end goals: to survive and reproduce. View Product. At some point they helped our ancestors survive some grand challenge to their existence. Welcome back. Insulin dependent diabetes is most common at high latitudes, predominantly in Finland, Sweden, the UK, and Norway, whereas in populations at low latitudes, like the people of African and Hispanic descent, diabetes is quite rare. This is a book which is simply incredible and super entertaining. Sharon Moalem makes a strong argument towards the notion that this gene is responsible for an increased immunity to the bubonic plague, which predominantly affected Western Europe in the fourteenth century. The type 1 diabetes chapter that posits that it aids in survival in a cold climate is laughably implausible. Toaster manufacturers want to sell new toasters and Mother Nature wants new people at a fast clip to replace old people full of disease who can no longer reproduce. Furthermore, almost all readers will find something new, although it may be sketchy. In short, if you're not familiar with a lot of the latest research in evolution and genetics, the book may be an interesting read for you, just be careful not to give too much credence to any particular hypothesis expressed in the book. Why has this gene not been selected against throughout the years? Sep 20, James rated it it was ok. This is just one example of epigenetics at work. Through further exploration, it was discovered that cells are preprogrammed to only be able to divide a certain number of times. Restrictions apply. He then added on additional theories and research, without being clear in the text he did have endnotes that the findings were not his. The increased iron levels cause pain and damage to joints, internal organs, and chemical properties of the body. Friend Reviews. Why do we age? So if the plague makes a reappearance, I'm good! So why does disease exist? Joining the ranks of modern myth busters, Dr. See how a store is chosen for you. In fact, it's even better than his book Inheritance. These genes are involved in the immune response; immune-related genes tend to become more diverse quickly, so it's unlikely that these HLA haplotypes are present in modern humans because they improved survival in the cold 12, years ago. Colina Hermosa has burned This would help explain the high rate of heart disease, especially among African Americans. In a nutshell, the disease that runs up your medical bills today may be the very disease that saved your ancestors long enough to reproduce, and consequently, contribute to your existence. I learned a lot and was compelled the whole time. The reason people with favism have an adverse reaction to fava beans is because the beans contain compounds that produce free radicals which leads to the lysing of red blood cells when the G6PD enzyme is not present. These are not valid sources of s The thesis sounds interesting, but the author doesn't provide very many examples, and for those he does, the evidence is speculative at best. So, it is believed that hemochromatosis originally came about via a genetic mutation that occurred before the bubonic plague and then was selected for during the bubonic plague, leading to the prevalence of the gene that causes hemochromatosis in the population today. To ask other readers questions about Survival of the Sickest, please sign up. While diabetes is considered a heritable disease, it is believed that genetics give you a predisposition for developing diabetes and then it is some environmental cue that actually prompts the onset. Can your genes be turned on -- or off? Very good. However, I was bothered by the author's arrogance. Background on how much of the human make-up is really not human at all but largely viruses in a symbiotic relationship was creepy but interesting. Being given very small rations of water created a selectional pressure for those that could retain salt, thereby retaining water and surviving. While this is a hotly debated hypothesis, there are many facts to back it up. Books by Sharon Moalem Sapiens: De animales a dioses: Una breve historia. By bringing us to Turn your brains off for this one, and enjoy. With our current pandemic lives, this book feels even more important. May 08, Natasha rated it liked it. He lives in New York City.

Chapter 1: Ironing It Out

Erudition via the way streptococcus has molecular m This was published in and there is a blip between chapters and musical transitions. Seriously, I was fascinated by the subject matter -- the interplay of genetics and disease -- and the writing style was wonderfully accessible to the lay reader.

Sharon Moalem turns our current understanding of illness on its head and challenges us to fundamentally change the way we think about our bodies, our health, and our relationship to just about every other living thing on earth, from plants and animals to insects and bacteria. To see what your friends thought of this book, please sign up. Similar reasons are provided for lots of other disorders, diseases, and biological traits, indicating lots of fun little biology tidbits. Open Preview See a Problem? Jul 06, Laurent rated it it was ok Shelves: non-fiction. One of the best books I've ever read. Considering my own experiences as a science student: explanations that seem to follow logically are nearly always more involved and interwoven than they at first appear. Never to stop questioning. In the same way, the growth of corn provides structure for the growth of beans, and shade for the growth of squash. Insulin dependent diabetes is most common at high latitudes, predominantly in Finland, Sweden, the UK, and Norway, whereas in populations at low latitudes, like the people of African and Hispanic descent, diabetes is quite rare. Sharon Moalem turns our current understanding of illness on its head and challenges us to fundamentally change the way we think about our bodies, our health, and our relationship to just about every other living thing on earth, from plants and animals to insects and bacteria. And that's just downright amazing! Only in the last chapter d The primary purpose of Moalem's work is to explore our physiology and its relationship to the world around us; its overarching message? The second was that I thought the author was playing a little too loose with facts. NOOK Book. Moalem would be shot dead by anyone who believed in logic. Did a deadly genetic disease help our ancestors survive the bubonic plagues of Europe? Since the Northern Europeans experience very little sunlight, even though they have light skin it is still difficult for them to produce enough vitamin D. Why does malaria want us in bed but the common cold want us at work? In this model, the only way that evolution could occur is through natural selection acting on random mutations to the genome. B is true. Our relationship to disease is more complex than previously realized. Jun 20, Sue rated it really liked it Shelves: medicine. This extreme level of virulence is not necessarily the norm. For instance, do you know why humans are hairless? However, I

was bothered by the author's arrogance. View Product. I got to indulge my inner geek without having to overexert my brain cells. Books li A slick production this is. Feb 25, Laura rated it it was ok Shelves: non-fiction , jiggery-pokery , talk-nerdy-to-me , anthropological. Oct 05, Muhammed Hebala rated it it was amazing Shelves: favorites , my-library. Lots of fun little biology tidbits. From w This is a fascinating read. Show More. At the time of writing he was represented by William Morris. Prove it. Jul 28, Heidi Hollister rated it it was amazing. Sharon Moalem is an award-winning neurologist and evolutionary biologist, with a PhD in human physiology. I would hazard a guess admittedly, an uneducated one that at least the pre-mortem processes listed here drive psoralen production as strongly as the odd bug bite does. In brief this implies that jargon is a rare animal and not found within. If you found that last tidbit interesting, then you will like this book. About this item. Talking about unrelated topics in his stories. Sharon Moalem makes a strong argument towards the notion that this gene is responsible for an increased immunity to the bubonic plague, which predominantly affected Western Europe in the fourteenth century. I really enjoyed it, as I love learning about evolution. Not so - our

DNA is programmed to make us die. The reason people with favism have an adverse reaction to fava beans is because the beans contain compounds that produce free radicals which leads to the lysing of red blood cells when the G6PD enzyme is not present. An example is his claim about sunglasses affecting the body's ability to protect against sunburn. I can't think of a better book to introduce people to what will undoubtedly be the new modern synthesis of evolution. This is a fascinating read. This can be explained through a similar process. Overview Joining the ranks of modern myth busters, Dr. When the option is a long life with a disease or a short one without it, evolution opts for disease almost every time. The Given Day. What makes people with hemochromatosis unique, is that interestingly, their macrophages have been found to lack the presence of iron, making them ideal for combating illness. And "discover The interconnectedness between disease and certain populations of individuals is extremely interesting and the writing in this book is very entertaining. In support of this theory, children are most often diagnosed with diabetes in the colder months when the temperature begins to drop. Favism is the most common enzyme deficiency in the world today and is also a heritable disease. If left alone, hemochromatosis can ultimately lead to death. The Given Day is a huge, impassioned, intensively researched book that brings history alive. If left alone, hemochromatosis can ultimately lead to death. This book is one of the best books I've ever read. For one thing, he makes some points with very little supporting evidence: "In the mids an Argentinian pediatrician reported that three healthy women all gave birth to children w "Oh, and for those Joe Six-packs out there playing a drinking game at home -- Maverick. These little genes provide a lot of diversity and are the descendants of amazingly clever viruses. Furthermore, almost all readers will find something new, although it may be sketchy. By carefully selecting the plants and animals he cultivates, and thereby manipulating the ecosystem he manages, an organic farmer uses naturally occurring genetic predispositions, in diet, toxicology, and even plant structure to the benefit of all of the partners in the system.