Herding Hemingway's Cats: Understanding how our genes work (Bloomsbury Sigma)

Kat Arney
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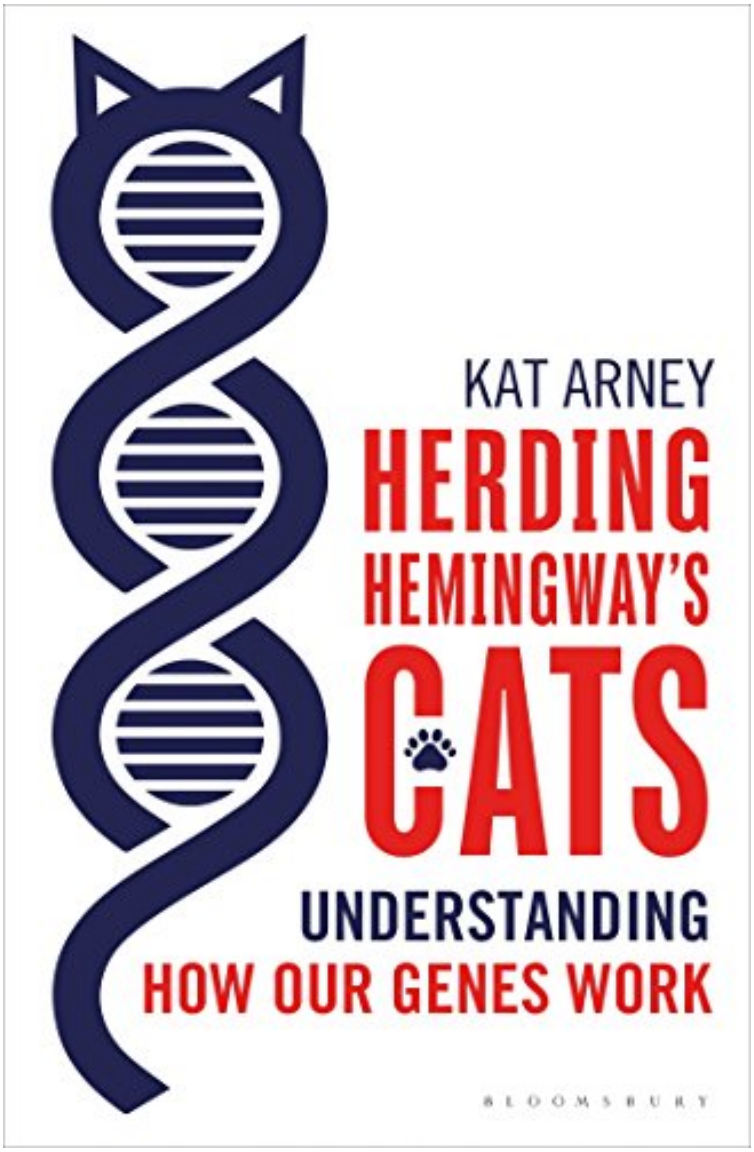

#207055 in Books imusti 2016-03-01 2016-03-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.79 x 27.81 x 5.51l, 1.15 #File Name: 1472910044288 pagesBloomsbury Publishing | File size: 32.Mb

Kat Arney : Herding Hemingway's Cats: Understanding how our genes work (Bloomsbury Sigma) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Herding Hemingway's Cats: Understanding how our genes work (Bloomsbury Sigma):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. this is a good and up-to-date readBy Lindsay WilliamsIf you are interested in the state of knowledge as far as genes go, this is a good and up-to-date read.Shows how far we have to go

to get a good handle on how this stuff works!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Jessica SliwakThis was a great book ..0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Eric A. Nelsonvery well done

The language of genes has become common parlance. We know they make our eyes blue, our hair curly, and they control our risks of cancer, heart disease, alcoholism, and Alzheimer's. One thousand dollars will buy you your own genome readout, neatly stored on a USB stick. And advances in genetic medicine hold huge promise.We've all heard of genes, but how do they actually work? There are six feet of DNA inside every one of your cells; this encodes 20,000 or so genes, tangled into a mass of molecular spaghetti. This is the text of the cookbook of life, and hidden within these strands are the instructions that tell cells when and where to turn genes on or off.In 1935, Ernest Hemingway was supposedly given Snow White, a six-toed cat who went on to father a line of similar offspring that still roam the writer's Florida estate. Scientists now know that the fault driving this profusion of digits lies in a tiny genetic control switch, miles away (in molecular terms) from the gene that "makes" toes. Researchers are discovering more about the myriad molecular switches that make sure genes are turned on at the right time and in the right place, and what happens when they don't work properly. This is allowing a four-dimensional picture of DNA to be built--a dynamic biological library, rather than static strings of code. Geneticist Kat Arney explores the intricacies of how, out of this seeming genetic chaos, life is created.

"[Arney] delivers an alluring tale of science at its most humble and probing, at least as practiced by the company of skeptics and scientific investigators . . . A robust, bouncy, pellucid introduction to DNA and genetics." starred review, Kirkus s"Writing in a breezy, irreverent style, Arney, a science journalist specializing in genetics, explores what is known about the inner workings of the genome. Her results are both fascinating and surprising." Publishers Weekly"The author is often highly amusing, and she knows her stuff . . . An intelligent and engaging look at human genetics." Library Journal"As readers look over the investigators shoulders . . . Arney has well primed her readers to share the intellectual excitement sure to come when todays pioneers announce their findings." Booklist"Herding Hemingway's Cats will instantly turn you into the most interesting guest at any party--it's a joy to read and a masterclass in making the complex story of life accessible, entertaining and relevant." Mark Stevenson, author of AN OPTIMIST'S TOUR OF THE FUTUREAbout the AuthorKat Arney is a science writer and broadcaster working for Cancer Research UK, the Naked Scientists, the BBC and other outlets. Her work has been published in the Guardian, Science, New Scientist, BBC Online, and Al-Jazeera Online. This is her first book. She lives in London, England.