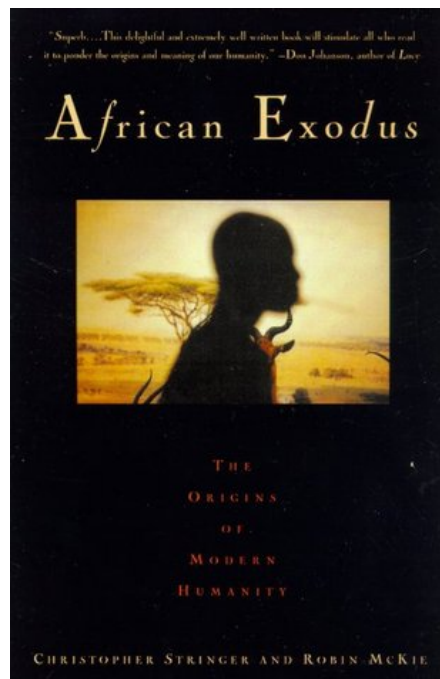




## African Exodus: The Origins of Modern Humanity

*Chris Stringer , Robin McKie*

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**African Exodus: The Origins of Modern Humanity** Chris Stringer , Robin McKie

**A Choice Outstanding Academic Book**

**A Library Journal Best Sci-Tech Book**

**A New York Times Notable Book**

Once in a generation a book such as African Exodus emerges to transform the way we see ourselves. This landmark book, which argues that our genes betray the secret of a single racial stock shared by all of modern humanity, has set off one of the most bitter debates in contemporary science. "We emerged out of Africa," the authors cont, "less than 100,000 years ago and replaced all other human populations." Employing persuasive fossil and genetic evidence (the proof is in the blood, not just the bones) and an exceptionally readable style, Stringer and McKie challenge long-held beliefs that suggest we evolved separately as different races with genetic roots reaching back two million years.

## African Exodus: The Origins of Modern Humanity Details

Date : Published June 15th 1998 by Holt Paperbacks (first published February 7th 1995)

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## From Reader Review African Exodus: The Origins of Modern Humanity for online ebook

**Alex Lang says**

**Excellent**

Though about 20 years out of date, this is a dynamite book that clearly explicated the role of (and specialness of) Homo sapiens in the context of other hominids

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**Shope says**

Good for Montessori educators

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**Jim says**

We are all Africans under the skin.

While at one point we thought human differences started many millennia ago, maybe we all descend from a common ancestor that came out of Africa less than 100,000 years ago. (This may be, ironically, closer to the young earth theory than previous theories of human evolution. :) Well, that is *closer*, but not quite close!)

In fact, human races living across the globe from each other are genetically "less different...even than lowland gorillas living in a restricted geographic area..." Two humans of completely different races and cultures have much more in common genetically than 2 gorillas living across the same forest. That's weird. And interesting. It shows we are all much more alike than many of us want to think.

And it dashes against the rocks racial differences suggested by some scientists (like the authors of *The Bell Curve: Intelligence and Class Structure in American Life* ).

This book is heavy on the information. I'm sure it doesn't help that a lot of this is new to me. Maybe I should have started with more of a primer. But it was good in describing - or arguing for - how man migrated originally from Africa. I honestly don't have the background in this field to evaluate it, but it gives compelling evidence. I'd be interested in seeing if current theories (this book now being 20 years old) agree.

More research!

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**Ruth says**

This was a quite informative but not at all difficult read. I can't speak to its credibility, not being a scientist. It helped me to get all the different hominid fossils that have been found straight in my head.

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## Captain Sir Roddy, R.N. (Ret.) says

Christopher Stringer's book, *African Exodus: The Origins of Modern Humanity* is a thoughtful, very well-written and detailed presentation of the prevailing model associated with modern human origins known as "The Out-of-Africa" hypothesis. Stringer is not only an incredibly articulate advocate for the model, but he is generally thought of as one of the principal architects of the hypothesis. Stringer's book, while written in the mid-1990s, provides the reader with an excellent synopsis and overview of the fossil, biological, cultural, and genetic evidence and information associated with the hominin species that occupied portions of our planet over the past five-million years.

If you're new to human origins and anthropology, or if you're looking for a good 'refresher' to the topic and the areas of controversy, then this is the book for you. While the "Out-of-Africa" hypothesis has morphed and has really become more complex over the past decade or so, particularly with the advent of so much of the genetic data, the basic tenets of the model still hold. In fact, it is safe to say that the Out-of-Africa hypothesis has become the only tenable hypothesis associated with the dispersal of anatomically modern humans around the planet starting about 80,000 years ago. Finally, it is my understanding that Chris Stringer's new book, *Lone Survivors: How We Came to Be the Only Humans on Earth* (Henry Holt and Co., Inc.), scheduled to be published in mid-March 2012, provides an in-depth overview of the current state-of-the-knowledge associated with modern human origins. I, for one, am very much looking forward to reading it.

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