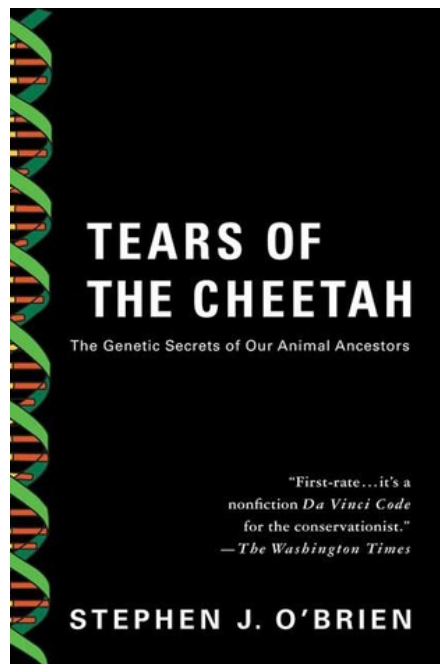




Tears of the Cheetah: The Genetic Secrets of Our Animal Ancestors

Stephen J. O'Brien

Download now

Read Online ➔

Tears of the Cheetah: The Genetic Secrets of Our Animal Ancestors

Stephen J. O'Brien

Tears of the Cheetah: The Genetic Secrets of Our Animal Ancestors Stephen J. O'Brien

The history of life on Earth is dominated by extinction events so numerous that over 99.9% of the species ever to have existed are gone forever. If animals could talk, we would ask them to recall their own ancestries, in particular the secrets as to how they avoided almost inevitable annihilation in the face of daily assaults by predators, climactic cataclysms, deadly infections and innate diseases.

In *Tears of the Cheetah*, medical geneticist and conservationist Stephen J. O'Brien narrates fast-moving science adventure stories that explore the mysteries of survival among the earth's most endangered and beloved wildlife. Here we uncover the secret histories of exotic species such as Indonesian orangutans, humpback whales, and the imperiled cheetah-the world's fastest animal which nonetheless cannot escape its own genetic weaknesses.

Among these genetic detective stories we also discover how the Serengeti lions have lived with FIV (the feline version of HIV), where giant pandas really come from, how bold genetic action pulled the Florida panther from the edge of extinction, how the survivors of the medieval Black Death passed on a genetic gift to their descendents, and how mapping the genome of the domestic cat solved a murder case in Canada.

With each riveting account of animal resilience and adaptation, a remarkable parallel in human medicine is drawn, adding yet another rationale for species conservation-mining their genomes for cures to our own fatal diseases. *Tears of the Cheetah* offers a fascinating glimpse of the insight gained when geneticists venture into the wild.

Tears of the Cheetah: The Genetic Secrets of Our Animal Ancestors Details

Date : Published April 1st 2005 by Thomas Dunne Books (St. Martin's Press) (first published 2003)

ISBN : 9780312339005

Author : Stephen J. O'Brien

Format : Paperback 287 pages

Genre : Science, Nonfiction, Biology, Animals, Genetics



[Download Tears of the Cheetah: The Genetic Secrets of Our Animal ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Tears of the Cheetah: The Genetic Secrets of Our Anim ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Tears of the Cheetah: The Genetic Secrets of Our Animal Ancestors
Stephen J. O'Brien

From Reader Review Tears of the Cheetah: The Genetic Secrets of Our Animal Ancestors for online ebook

Diane Seibert says

Great book on genetics - very easy to read, a bit dated now, but still interesting and well written....particularly if you like animals

RaeAnn says

Very much enjoyed this book. Contains very interesting profiles in each chapter, of examples of great strides and interesting areas of science, and the sometimes messy ethical and real life consequences of that. Gives a broad view into genetics/evolutionary science, which covers many different areas and shows the diversity of the field, but also shows the emotional turmoil often accompanied with study of these areas.

Catherine Bliss says

A great way to learn the ins and outs of molecular genetics and wildlife conservation (with a focus on giant felines)! It's the perfect combination of the technical and narrative. It's also a timely lens for understanding species variation and ecology.

Joshua says

I had to read this for my Comparative Genetics class and it's amazing. O'Brien is a great writer and makes each chapter really easy to read. Would seriously recommend.

10/10

Galina says

????????????? ????? ? ??????? ????????, ????? ?? ??????? ??????? ?? ??? ????, ?????????? ??????????+ ??????.
????????????????, ?????? ? (? ??????? ??????????????) ???, ?????? ?????? ?????????? paw-????????? ? ??????
?????? ?????? :) ?????????????? ???????, ?????????????? ??? ? ? ?????? ??????????, ????? ??????????????? ??
???? ???? ??????????????. ??? ????? ??????? ?????????????? "????????? ? ?????", ?????? ?????? ?????????? ?
?????????
????????? ?? ?????? ?????????????? ??????? ?????????? ??????, ?????????????? ?????????????? ??????? ?
?????????, ? ? ?????? ?????? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????????? ? ?????? ?????????, - ?????? "?????" ?????????
?????? ? ?? ??????. ? ?????????? ???????????!

Elizabeth McDonald says

I am actually reading the hardcover edition, which, oddly, has a different subtitle ("And Other Tales From the Genetic Frontier"). I can't figure out why they changed that between editions, and I actually feel that the original subtitle captured the essence of the book more. Each chapter is indeed a story from O'Brien's adventures in genetic research, from working with large cats conservation projects to solving a murder case with DNA from a housecat. The adventure is mixed with solid scientific information, presented in a way the non-geneticist can grasp.

S. says

An interesting and enlightening look at genetics and genetic science. It will not take a doctorate to read this well written and thoughtful book. If you are intrigued by genetics, if you like science, read this book.

Hosam Diab says

?????? ???? ??????? ??? ??????. ???? ????????? ???? ??? ?????? ??? ?????? ?????? ?? ??? ??????????. ?????? ?????? ?????? ?????? ????????????

Brittany says

This is the kind of book that your friends can't wait for you to finish, so that they can get some peace. Because you can't stop texting, emailing, calling, and interrupting conversations to share the newest, coolest thing this book told you. It is so cool that you physically cannot stop yourself sharing and trying to talk other people into reading it immediately.

It's that good.

It should be required reading for anyone interested in conservation science, especially anyone interested in conservation genetics.

It's a fascinating adventure story. There are mysteries bundled up in each chapter. The writing is witty and well-done. You're left with the feeling that you should maybe see if O'Brien is free to attend your next dinner party. Or camping expedition.

The science is just knock-your-socks off cool. I kept running across the names of people I knew or had heard of, and then I'd have to put down the book for another round of running around to tell everyone else in reach about it.

You need to read it. Right away.

Wendy says

No Fiction. Fascinating. Molecular biology simplified. Animal and human worlds explored with medical and criminal stories. Still reading

Clee says

Although dated (published in 2003), Dr. O'Brien's compilation of stories of his work in genetic sleuthing is a great read for those who are beginning in the field. In particular, the early chapters on the importance of genetic diversity to a healthy species is a message relevant to both the endangered animal and human animal worlds.
