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M. Ridley : Genome (text only) First American Edition edition by M. Ridley before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Genome (text only) First American Edition edition by M. Ridley:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A timeless big picture of how we got to today's science of geneticsBy WillardExcellent, easy to understand explanation of how chromosomes function, and the details about how genes code for proteins that are essential to our bodies. He explains how genes turn on and off during our lifetime for various reasons and how this can affect our health. While it's a book about biology, I was impressed with how it does not read like one. The book was first published in 1999, and while the extensive research he discusses was conducted before that, and the science of genetics subsequently advanced; by and large the basic science he presents is still applicable because of how he presents each concept. From a historical perspective, he discusses what is now seen as groundbreaking experiments that established the field of genetics in the mid to late 20th century - without fully realizing it from today's viewpoint. It's good insight to the ground floor of the largest expanding field of science in our lifetime.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Good introduction, with some minor shortcomings.By Jim CA good introduction into the subject matter, but still lacking in some respects. I enjoyed the structure of 23 chapters actin as a biography of sorts on each of the gene pairs. While there is far too much information to be completely covered in a single book, there are a couple of shortcomings that kept this from being as good as I had hoped.A little more background into the process of extracting and identifying DNA would have been appreciated. Although this information may have not been complete at the time of the original publishing, in 2013 DNA was commonly used in criminal and civil courts, as well as some daytime talk shows.Secondly, while I can appreciate the author's interjection

of humor to lighten some of the heavier passages, it seems to happen too frequently and ends up detracting. In particular, a few analogies seem to be taken a bit too far after the point has been clearly made. Lastly, the subject of Gene therapy (treatments) could use a better explanation of how the mechanism works to get the altered genes into the code of the patient. Otherwise, it is an enjoyable read and a good introduction to the subject matter. 21 of 22 people found the following review helpful. Kindle Fail. (Or, if this book were a genome, I'm not sure it would have survived.) By Angela If this book were a genome, I'm not sure it would have survived. Somewhere in its transcription from print to kindle, mutations sprung up on every chromosome, and it looks like it hasn't evolved any sort of "double-checking" mechanism. Some of the common errors: - "The" replaced with "die," - "1" replaced with "i" (think "the years 1957-1960") - "tl" regularly replaced with "d" (think "Aristode" and "litde") - Headings appear randomly in the text ("GENOME 157" in the middle of a sentence) - several others If you don't mind sentences like "Aristode discovered die GENOME 157 idea," (not an actual quote, but a representation of the regular errors) go for it. In science, however, names really matter. These types of errors render the entire text unreliable. Ever want to quote that interesting thing you learned? Well don't, because the book might have gotten the name wrong through a typo and you'll look like an idiot rather than a smarty-pants who reads scholarly books on the weekend. I think there are enough reviews of the text itself to give a potential buyer a good idea of what they can expect, so I won't go into much other than the fact that I read these types of books regularly, and while I would definitely read it again (interesting ideas), I felt like I was trudging through the text. The author is particularly fond of letting you know he just lied to you or made something up, sometimes to demonstrate his points. Just like every gene should not be expressed, every idea that enters an author's mind shouldn't make it to the final print. So there you have it, an interesting but flawed production that could use some encouragement from natural selection.

Genome: The Autobiography of a Species In 23 Chapters [Unabridged] [Hardcover] Matt Ridley (Author)