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SURVIVAL OF THE PRETTIEST

The Science of Beauty

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Survival of the Prettiest: The Science of Beauty



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A provocative and thoroughly researched inquiry into what we come across beautiful and just why, skewering the myth that the quest for beauty is a learned behavior. Beauty, she explains, can be an important and ineradicable part of human nature that is revered and ferociously pursued in just about any civilization—Survival of the Prettiest, Nancy Etcoff, a faculty member at Harvard Medical College and a practicing psychologist at Massachusetts General Medical center, argues that beauty is neither a cultural building, an invention of the style industry, nor a backlash against feminism— Those features to which we are most attracted tend to be signals of fertility and fecundity. Moreover, if we know how the desire for beauty is innate, after that we are able to begin to work inside our own passions, and not simply the interests of our genetic tendencies. In and for good reason.it all’both to be beautiful ourselves and to acquire an attractive partner— When observed in the context of a Darwinian struggle for survival, our sometimes severe attempts to attain beauty—suddenly become much more understandable.s in our biology.



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Useful, interesting, and fun: worthy of my permanent collection I love this reserve. I examine it when it initial came out as a library reserve, and it helped me with little beauty hacks that doubled my guidelines as a cocktail waitress. A great starter read for those who want to find out the machine. one has to apply one's talents and intellect to compete in the globe and to contribute successfully.)Beyond that, it features some interesting studies and science-backed methods, though it isn't an instruction manual. paragraphs Great book! An extremely fun browse that digests quickly.We heartily recommend it to any girl (though men would reap the benefits of reading it too). the chapters are vague, it is hard to tell apart between headings & That is, beauty isn't an invention of the mass media any more than cuteness can be an invention of Disney (Bambi, the film, exploited our instinctive judgements of what is cute). . Yet, having said that, both the mass media and the perceiver issues, just not just as much as people tend to think. This publication has been well researched and the author has approached the topic in a friendly way. She provides answers to all or any the main questions that usually appear when attractiveness is discussed. Four Stars Interesting examine.A: Averageness, symmetry, Big eyes (females), large cheekbones (males)Q: When did people start to care so very much about their appearance? Actually Etcoff made this impression on me that I am almost certain to buy her next publication (if she writes one), independent of what that reserve is about.A: Because they're indicators of underlying qualities, such as health or fertilityThese are rough answers, and there are various important and interesting details which cannot be covered in a brief review such as this. Thankfully, Etcoff switches into full detail, and even though I am type of a minor expert on attractiveness (have published a couple of studies on memory space biases connected with attractiveness), I discovered many things out of this book. Etcoff's design of writing is reminiscent of Steven Pinker. Both are masters with regards to referencing a huge amount of literature from extremely divergent sources (books, TV-shows, published content articles, archeological findings, poetry etc), in a brief amount of text, without affecting the stream of this text.A: Since the dawn of timeQ: Are we nicer to more attractive individualsA: YesQ: As to why are certain characteristics considered attractive? Beauty More Than Skin Deep This book let me finally come to terms with beauty as something all humans are drawn to as an evolutionary necessity. That beautiful people have a societal advatage is usually confirmed but just means the rest of us must work a bit harder. Having beauty by itself is rarely enough though; ;In this book Nancy Etcoff from Harvard University offers a fast paced, thoroughly researched, wealthy and exciting account of attractiveness. helpful Pros: In depth, scientific, and helpfulCons: The desk of contents & Neither is beauty merely in the eye of the beholder.. it was an easy and entertaining read This was a really interesting read read.If there was any complaint, it was that the author wasn't daring plenty of and doesn't introduce any really breathtakingly new suggestions. I've read it multiple situations and finally had to get a copy to keep. A book that will probably survive OK...e. I got the impression she was primarily reporting on others' study, and I believe Etcoff skipped (in the next-to-last chapter) the interesting truth that within the last decade (roughly) fashion appears to have flowed from the lower classes upwards, whereas throughout the rest of history it has been the other method, which is sort of what she presumes to still be the case. This is a fairly decent book but not extraordinary. This doesn't detract seriously from the earlier material, which showed an impression more originality of approach. I especially liked the first chapter, which reads more like an essay on beauty past and present than an intro to a science book. Similarly, it relies on a Darwinian framework for interpretation but isn't overly adamant about ev-psych's capability to explain everything about human being behavior. This is definitely a book that gets you thinking. It includes many of the current observations associated with beauty (especially the female variety) but is not overly scientific -- i., it doesn't get bogged straight down in technicalities or jargon. An interesting topic pretty well-covered, even if not ground-breaking in any way. Important contribution. This is definitely a book that gets you thinking. Well crafted, enjoyable and well researched account of the science of beauty Unlike what many people think there are specific features of our body and face that have been considered attractive, in all cultures. Use it to guide your quest further (disclaimer: I'm SUPER into

biological anthropology. Confusing format but comprehensive, scientific, & An interesting but heavy read
Though it has everything I wanted, it was hard occasionally to keep it reading, due to the fact it has many chapters that keeps repeating itself. Here is a non exhaustive list, that your basic answerQ: What is attractive?. Even though a lot of the information wasn't necessarily ground breaking, it was well framed so as to still shed some light on controversial topics. I also valued that despite being truly a research based book, it was an easy and entertaining read. Two Stars Not really what I thought it was about whatsoever.



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