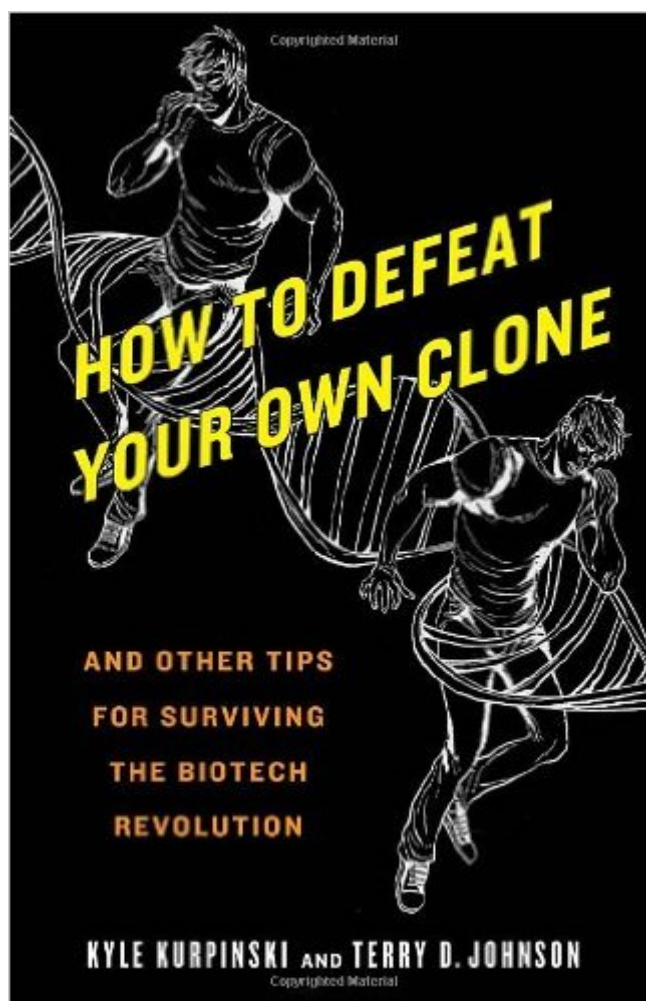


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How To Defeat Your Own Clone: And Other Tips For Surviving The Biotech Revolution



Synopsis

Send in the clones! On second thought, maybe not. CAN IT READ MY MIND? WILL IT BE EVIL? HOW DO I STOP IT? Find out the answers to these and other burning questions in this funny, informative, and ingenious book from two bioengineering experts who show you how to survive and thrive in a new age of truly weird science. For decades, science fiction has been alerting us to the wonders and perils of our biotech future from the prospects of gene therapy to the pitfalls of biological warfare. Now that future looms before us. Don't panic! This book is all you need to prepare for the new world that awaits us, providing indispensable cautionary advice on topics such as bioenhancements: They're not just for cyborgs anymore. DNA sequencing and fingerprinting: What's scarier than the government having your DNA on file? Try having it posted on the Internet. human cloning: Just like you, only stronger, smarter, and more attractive. In other words: more dangerous. Our future may be populated by designer babies, genetically enhanced supersoldiers, and one (or more!) of your genetic duplicates, but all is not lost. How to Defeat Your Own Clone is the ultimate survival guide to what lies ahead. Just remember the first rule of engagement: Don't ever let your clone read this book!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was afraid the book would be over my head. It is very funny and they don't take anything for granted. They explain all of the nomenclature in detail so I never found myself wondering what they were writing about. I actually read it twice. Now I just go around waiting for someone to casually bring up cloning so I can pretend like the ideas in this book were mine.

This book is written with a delightful sense of humor, yet the authors clearly take the subject seriously. Fun to read, thoughtful, and thought-provoking. Kurpinski and Johnson admit right up front what so many from the highest halls of government on down refuse to recognize; The biotech genie is out of the bottle and he isn't going back in, so we'd better get to thinking about how we are going to handle things, rather than pretend it will all just go away.

Somewhat tongue in cheek, this is a terrific look at cloning that simplifies using humor without dumbing down DNA sequencing. The authors answer key questions and provide warnings. One particular caution is allowing your DNA sequence to appear on the Internet that will remind readers of Miss Manners' warning about social networking. Readers will ask how do I defeat a clone who has been enhanced to be superior. Answer is experience and knowledge. The future appears to be chocolate-flavored broccoli that Bush 41 would enjoy, but not to worry as humans have a long time history of genetic engineering in farming and animal domestication. So although stem cell research appears to have cures for illnesses, Kyle Kurpinski and Terry D. Johnson make a serious Dr. Frankenstein case that good intentions pave the road to hell with unintended consequences. So be prepared to out think your healthier clone. This is a great science book that combines jocularly with easy to read and understand biotechnology. Harriet Klausner

Being a high school student, it is almost impossible to find that "just right" book. Many books on this topic are either very advanced and beyond my capabilities or too basic for high school level research. This is a great book that gives great insight on the topic. Usually I dread reading non fiction, but i have to admit this was a rather fun book to read. I think this is to other books as food inc. is to the other documentaries. It's an amazing book, because it actually kept me entertained and interested. It starts off with misconceptions then goes more into detail then towards the end branches off into other topics that are directly affected by cloning.

Lively, funny, yet very informative description of the science of cloning. The authors are able to strike a perfect balance between getting into the weeds of what makes cloning work and keeping the subject light and understandable to non-scientists (like me). I especially like how they expounded the idea -- make commonplace in dozens of sci-fi stories, including the recent Star Wars movies -- that clones would arrive fully formed. Of course not! The clones of you would arrive as babies, and grow up at the same rate as you, but while being biologically similar, they would be the summation

of THEIR experiences, not yours. Very enjoyable and helpful in understanding this complex topic -- yet pop-culture savvy enough to explode all the myths that surround the science.

"How to Defeat Your Own Clone" is an exceptional book. Like my above one sentence review, this work is simple, to the point, and easily understood by the average reader. And I'm very much the average reader when it comes to books dealing with genetic science. Based on the book's title, I was hoping it would explain cloning, genetics, and general scientific theory in an entertaining and/or humorous way. It does just that, but it does more as well. It's one thing to write a book that's scientifically accurate, it's another to write a book that's funny, but to combine the two genres is no easy feat. The authors succeed admirably, and "How to Defeat Your Own Clone" is a fun read that also educates. Concerned about the 21st century implications of biotechnology, stem cell research, and similar topics? Want to learn more? Don't want to be bored to tears or overwhelmed by jargon? If this sounds like you, then this title should be at the top of your list of books to buy.

This book is awesome. It's extremely well written with a deep but not too deep insight into the practical effects of genetics (like making chocolate flavored broccoli or adding spines to your skin) while also debunking many movie myths about clones (it's really hard to make an exact duplicate without renting out your mother's womb). It manages to be scientifically precise while also maintaining a very fun, almost whimsical feel throughout the entire book. It's possible to finish it in a weekend and you will most likely be tempted to do just that. If you like random science facts mixed with a dash of humor, this is for you.

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