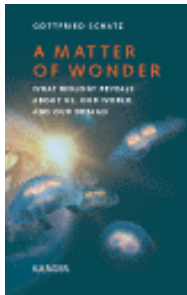


A Matter of Wonder

What Biology Reveals about Us, Our World, and Our Dreams
Translated by A. Shields



Author(s): Schatz, G. (Basel)

"A remarkable fusion of science and humanism."

Eugene P. Kennedy, Harvard University, Boston, Mass.

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Where do we come from? Is our destiny determined by the genes we inherit? Do we all see the same blue color when we look at the sky? A collection of extraordinary essays by Gottfried Schatz, the world-renowned biochemist and co-discoverer of mitochondrial DNA, answers to universal questions and takes the reader on a fascinating journey of discovery across the boundaries of scientific disciplines. With passion and a keen sense of wonder the author draws on philosophy, cultural history and art to formulate his reflections on the mysteries of life. The perfect gift book which will appeal not only to scientists, but anyone with a curious mind, regardless of educational and professional background!

私達は、どこから来るか？私達の運命は、私たちの遺伝子で決められてしまうのか？私達が空を見るとき、皆同じ青い色を見ているのか？本書 Matter of Wonder では、世界に名高い生化学者であり、ミトコンドリア DNA の共同発見者の一人でもある Gottfried Schatz の珠玉のエッセイ集であり、読者の皆様の素朴な宇宙的質問に答え、科学分野の境界を超えて魅力的な発見の旅に誘います。情熱と飽くこと無き探求心により、著者は哲学、文化の歴史、芸術の観点から生命のミステリーについて語ります。教育や専門的バックグラウンドに関係なく、科学者は無論、好奇心旺盛な読者を満足させる価値ある書物です。

A Matter of Wonder Contents :

Strangers in Me How bacteria became part of our body / Ominous Visitors Mind-bending parasites / Punishing Protectors Our sense of pain as a protector – and a torturer / The Little Brother Brutal tuberculosis and insidious leprosy / The Voice of Silence Our astonishing sense of hearing / Clocks of Life How we sense the earth's rotation and how we age / My World Why each of us sees, smells and tastes things differently / Children of the Sun Colored lights blinking in the depths of our oceans / Mysterious Senses The magnetic sense in bacteria, turtles and birds / Fateful Colors How our skin pigments have shaped human history / Portrait of a Protein Art and science – the two sisters / Traces What our genome tells us about human origins / Stardust How exploding stars gave our body iron / Creative Craters Hot meteor craters as possible cradles of life / Master Chemist from the Dawn of Life The amazing talents of cobalt in us / Reflections on Myself Are the bacteria inhabiting my body also part of me? / The Twilight of Iron / New raw materials that think – and live / Beyond Genes Why we are not slaves to our genes / The Foundation of Things Why we must always search for the cause / Voices of the Night Reflections on my life in science