



## The Book of Man: The Human Genome Project and the Quest to Discover Our Genetic Heritage

By Robin McKie

Oxford University Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 272 pages. Dimensions: 9.2in. x 6.2in. x 0.8in. James Watson, a discoverer of the structure of D. N. A. , described it as the most golden of molecules, the true chemical for life. Indeed, it is the essential component from which our genes are made. In it is encoded the genetic language that controls our destinies. Astonishingly powerful, just six millionths of a gram of D. N. A. carries as much information as ten volumes of the Oxford English Dictionary. The Book of Man, is the term used by Walter Bodmer and Robin McKie for the D. N. A. that is the instruction set according to which all humans are made. At conception, a single cell-the fertilized egg-is produced, and it is this one cell that has the potential to form a new and unique individual under the guidance of the D. N. A. within its nucleus. The human body is made up of a hundred million million cells of many different sorts, and all contain the inherited information that comes from that first, single cell created at fertilization. Bodmer and McKie assert that when we learn how to read D. N. A. s pages...

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