



The Cell: A Visual Tour of the Building Block of Life

By Jack Challoner



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The Cell: A Visual Tour of the Building Block of Life By Jack Challoner

The cell is the basic building block of life. In its 3.5 billion years on the planet, it has proven to be a powerhouse, spreading life first throughout the seas, then across land, developing the rich and complex diversity of life that populates the planet today.

With *The Cell: A Visual Tour of the Building Block of Life*, Jack Challoner treats readers to a visually stunning tour of these remarkable molecular machines. Most of the living things we're familiar with—the plants in our gardens, the animals we eat—are composed of billions or trillions of cells. Most multicellular organisms consist of many different types of cells, each highly specialized to play a particular role—from building bones or producing the pigment in flower petals to fighting disease or sensing environmental cues. But the great majority of living things on our planet exist as single cell. These cellular singletons are every bit as successful and diverse as multicellular organisms, and our very existence relies on them.

The book is an authoritative yet accessible account of what goes on inside every living cell—from building proteins and producing energy to making identical copies of themselves—and the importance of these chemical reactions both on the familiar everyday scale and on the global scale. Along the way, Challoner sheds light on many of the most intriguing questions guiding current scientific research: What special properties make stem cells so promising in the treatment of injury and disease? How and when did single-celled organisms first come together to form multicellular ones? And how might scientists soon be prepared to build on the basic principles of cell biology to build similar living cells from scratch.



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The Cell: A Visual Tour of the Building Block of Life By Jack Challoner Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

“High school biology didn’t do much to make cells seem like fascinating, psychedelic visual art. The plant and animal cell diagrams splashed across textbook pages are a world away from what the billions of cells dividing, dying, or busily making proteins actually look like. *The Cell* more than makes up for that shortfall. . . . Amazing micrographs show the tiny building blocks of life in rich, strange detail. . . . If the images didn’t come with scientific explanation, it would be easy to confuse them with radical abstract art.”

(*Wired* 2015-12-01)

“*The Cell* offers scores of beautifully intimate views of the complex organic universes of cells. Their sheer physical diversity is striking. Adipose tissue bound in collagen gives the impression of seaweed caught in an old net. Bundles of collagen fibrils mimic bamboo forests. Cells undergoing mitosis looks like jellyfish breaking apart. . . . The pictures would wow a child, but the book covers an astonishing amount of ground and would be an intriguing addition to any introductory biology class.”

(*Publishers Weekly* 2016-01-15)

“In his beautiful visual exploration of the cell, Challoner uses an exuberance of imaging techniques as well as infographics and data figures to illustrate this fundamental unit of life. Handsome and elegantly designed, this tour through the cell’s history and diversity in form and function is a delight to peruse. Each page is its own lovely rabbit hole, parsed to allow for quick snippets of “cyte-seeing” or hours-long, leisurely pleasure reading. This stunning collection would make a winning addition to the library of any lover of life and science.”

(*American Scientist* 2016-01-15)

“Small really is beautiful: Psychedelic images show the inner workings of cells in stunning detail. . . . The book, although enjoyable to look at, aims to show readers just how amazing and beautiful science can be.”

(*Daily Mail* 2015-12-02)

“[Challoner’s] book about cells featuring micrographed images of the biological blueprints for each and every living thing in the universe could be considered more than an informational and visual tome—it could easily be a photographic work of art.”

(*Tech Times* 2015-12-02)

About the Author

Jack Challoner is the author of more than thirty books on science and technology. He also works as an independent science consultant for print, radio and TV.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Fern Marshall:

Now a day individuals who Living in the era wherever everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not call for people to be aware of each data they get. How many people to be smart in acquiring any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Reading through a book can help persons out of this uncertainty Information particularly this The Cell: A Visual Tour of the Building Block of Life book since this book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred per-cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you probably know this.

Ricardo Bishop:

Information is provisions for folks to get better life, information presently can get by anyone in everywhere. The information can be a information or any news even a problem. What people must be consider whenever those information which is in the former life are difficult to be find than now is taking seriously which one works to believe or which one typically the resource are convinced. If you receive the unstable resource then you buy it as your main information you will see huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen throughout you if you take The Cell: A Visual Tour of the Building Block of Life as the daily resource information.

Hilton Rogers:

Spent a free time to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book is usually option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the e-book untitled The Cell: A Visual Tour of the Building Block of Life can be very good book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

Jennifer Evans:

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