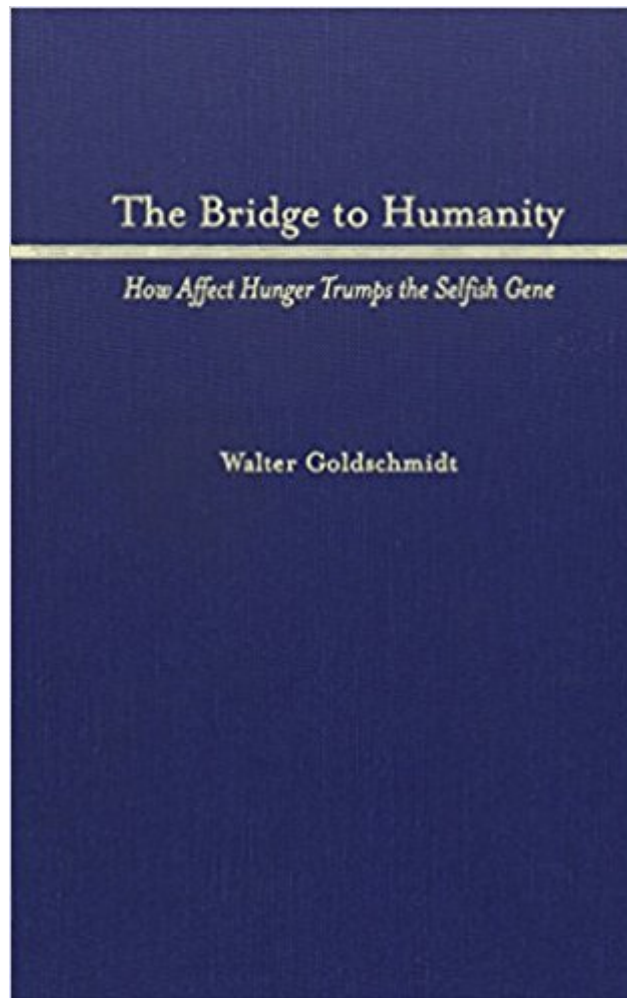




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The Bridge To Humanity: How Affect Hunger Trumped The Selfish Gene



Synopsis

Transforming the debate on nature versus culture to nature and culture, renowned anthropologist Walter Goldschmidt presents a fresh look at how human biology and culture fit together.

Book Information

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press (July 21, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 019517965X

ISBN-13: 978-0195179651

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.8 x 5.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

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Customer Reviews

"Finally, a cultural anthropologist who understands biology! Graced with the gifts of clarity and brevity, Goldschmidt has contributed the best short book on human nature and culture that has appeared in many years."--Melvin Konner, M.D., Ph.D., author of *The Tangled Wing: Biological Constraints on the Human Spirit* and Samuel C. Dobbs Professor of Anthropology, Emory University

"An exceptional book. To my mind, it should be required reading for all anthropology majors and incoming anthropology graduate students. Goldschmidt provides a sophisticated appraisal of the biological and cultural components that underlie human evolution and behavior."--Robert Sussman, Washington University

"Dr. Goldschmidt is both an extremely sharp and original thinker and a very, very respected 'elder' in our tribe. He knows the field as do few, if any, others. . . . An amazingly original and insightful book."--Eugene Anderson, University of California, Riverside

Walter Goldschmidt is at U.C.L.A. (Emeritus). --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

In this book, Goldschmidt, an emeritus anthropologist, pulls together several strands of scientific

work on genetics and cognition into a view of human evolution that provides some deep insights into what makes us human. One of the primary insights that he builds on is the recent discovery of mirror neurons, which allow us to learn through observation. Goldschmidt's idea that the evolution of language and tool making are related is also a valuable one. But most important is his overarching idea that affect hunger is the source of culture; that it is a biological need, yet one that connects us with others, and therefore encourages the cooperation and empathy that makes culture and civilization possible.

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