



## Vital Harmonies: Molecular Biology and Our Shared Humanity

By Erwin Fleissner

Columbia University Press, United States, 2006. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 201 x 132 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. The year 2003 marked the fiftieth anniversary of James Watson s and Francis Crick s discovery of the structure of DNA, which began a revolution in the biological sciences and radically altered the way humans view life and themselves. In this poetic account Erwin Fleissner, an eminent cancer researcher and teacher, offers a personal and professional reflection on the most significant developments in molecular genetics and cell biology over the past fifty years. Vital Harmonies is a sweeping look at these crucial scientific advances and an insider s perspective on what scientists have actually learned from them. Contrasting the humanistic side of scientific research with more deterministic or mechanical explanations of life processes, Fleissner discusses everything from natural selection to the tradition of rational inquiry stemming from the Enlightenment. He goes on to describe the structures of macromolecules and their organizing principles as well as cancer genes, stem cells, and the Human Genome Project. He also explores neuronal cells and the emergence of consciousness and how biological evolution is the foundation of our personal reality as well as our global..



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