

Biological Anomalies: Humans II (Catalog of Biological Anomalies Series)

William R. Corliss

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William R. Corliss : Biological Anomalies: Humans II (Catalog of Biological Anomalies Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Biological Anomalies: Humans II (Catalog of Biological Anomalies Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. So much to see and learn about the human body ...By Arthur Jackson So much to see and learn about the human body. Don't ever let a doctor or "expert" tell you how much we know about our bodies, there is a lot more we don't know. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ANOTHER ONE OF CORLISS'S "SOURCEBOOKS" OF CURIOUS THINGS By Steven H Propp William R. Corliss (1926-2011) was an American physicist and writer who was known for his interest in collecting data regarding anomalous phenomena in astronomy, geophysics, geology, archaeology, biology, etc., which he published in books such as Handbook of Unusual Natural Phenomena, Ancient Man: A Handbook of Puzzling Artifacts, , Biological Anomalies: Humans (Catalog of Biological Anomalies), Biological Anomalies, Mammals I: A Catalog of Biological Anomalies, Science Frontiers: Some Anomalies and Curiosities of Nature, etc. He wrote in the Preface to this 1993 book, "It is at least as important to realize what is anomalous as it is to recognize the well-explained facts of nature... here is the thirteenth volume... It is largely the product of one person's library research... for every anomaly that can be legitimately demolished, a trip to the library will replace it with ten more from impeccable sources. In sum, Nature is VERY anomalous or, equivalently, Nature is not yet well-understood. Much remains to be done." He wrote about

"SHC" (i.e., "spontaneous human combustion") that in many cases, "obvious sources of ignition are present (cigarettes, open fireplaces, etc.). Even when obvious igniters are absent, one can often reasonably hypothesize that either the source of ignition was consumed in the fire or some sporadic source was present (static electricity, lightning, electrical faults). Although some SHC proponents are quick to theorize about 'fire poltergeists' and similar paranormal phenomena, it is very difficult to prove that more conventional forms of ignition were not present." (Pg. 26) He observes that "Fingertip regeneration in humans is anomalous because (1) The biological processes active in a regenerating finger are not understood at all; and (2) The reason for the sharp, precise line on the finger that divides total, perfect regeneration at all is a mystery... Finally, one must ask why such a valuable capability as limb regeneration has been largely lost by the 'higher' animals during their evolution!" (Pg. 79) Concerning cancer cells, he says, "The anomalousness here lies in the origin and evolution of cancer. If cancer (and its genome) never survives, how did all its rather sophisticated attributes evolve? The theory of evolution itself seems at risk here." (Pg. 171) All of Corliss's "Sourcebook" are stimulating and thought-provoking---the more so, since most of them are taken directly from "respectable" mainstream scientific journals. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A fascinating collection of Human Anomalies By Neil H This is the first of the Corliss catalogs I've read after previously reading several of his handbooks, and I found it a much more entertaining experience. Instead of dryly reprinting 700 pages of research papers, Corliss gives a significant amount of explanation and opinion on every topic, rating each according to its level of anomaly and quality of data. The major areas of this volume are; Chemical and Physical Anomalies, Bodily Functions, Health, Internal Systems and Structures, and Organs. There are a couple of themes prevalent throughout the catalog. Several of the anomalies investigated are concerned with possible effects on humans of lunar/solar/planetary cycles. Also, there is an ongoing theme of whether evolutionary theory is proved or disproved by characteristics of the human body - such as the "perfect" nature of the human eye. I was most intrigued though by the anomalies suggesting that humans may have had an aquatic phase in their evolution - the "Aquatic Ape" hypothesis.

BIOLOGICAL ANOMALIES - HUMANS II is one of 22 volumes in the Catalog of Anomalies published by The Sourcebook Project. The catalog provides an objective, unsensationalized compilation of anomalous phenomena, difficult to explain observations, and curiosities of nature in the fields of astronomy, biology, archeology, geophysics, and geology. This is the second of three volumes devoted to human biological anomalies, and focuses on the "internal" machinery of the body: its major organs, its support structure (the skeleton), and its vital subsystems - the central nervous system and the immune system. Some of the topics covered include Enigma of the Fetal Graft * Phantom Limbs * Blood Chimeras * Anomalous Human Combustion * Bone Shedders * "Perfection" of the Eye * Dearth of Memory Traces * Sudden Increase of Hominid Brain Size * Health and the Weather * Periodicity of Epidemics * Extreme Longevity * AIDS Anomalies * Cancer Anomalies * Human-Limb Regeneration * Nostril Cycling * Voluntary Suspended Animation * and Male Menstruation. BIOLOGICAL ANOMALIES - HUMANS II contains 40 illustrations and intriguing accounts collected from the archives of references including English Mechanic, New Scientist, Nature, Science, Science News Letter, Cycles, Pursuit, and Scientific American to name a few. Over 490 citations are referenced and indexed three ways, by First Author, Source, and Subject. The indexes are cross-referenced to each entry in the book to aid the reader in locating original source materials and conducting independent research.