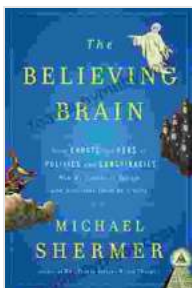


From Ghosts And Gods To Politics And Conspiracies: How We Construct Beliefs

We all believe things. Some of our beliefs are based on evidence and reason, while others are based on faith or intuition. But how do we decide what to believe? And why do we sometimes hold on to beliefs even when there is no evidence to support them?



The Believing Brain: From Ghosts and Gods to Politics and Conspiracies---How We Construct Beliefs and Reinforce Them as Truths by Michael Shermer

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1551 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 401 pages



In this fascinating book, the author explores the fascinating world of human belief, from its ancient roots in animism and superstition to its modern manifestations in politics and conspiracy theories. The author argues that all beliefs, no matter how strange or irrational they may seem, are based on a fundamental human need to make sense of the world around us.

The book begins by examining the origins of belief in the human psyche. The author argues that our earliest ancestors were animists, who believed that all things in the world, from rocks and trees to animals and humans, were imbued with a spirit. This belief in animism was a way for our ancestors to make sense of the natural world and to feel connected to the forces that controlled it.

As humans evolved, our beliefs became more sophisticated. We began to develop religions, which provided us with a framework for understanding the world and our place in it. Religions offered us a set of beliefs that explained the origins of the universe, the nature of good and evil, and the fate of our souls after death.

In the modern world, we have a wide range of beliefs to choose from. We can believe in anything from traditional religions to New Age spiritualities to political ideologies. We can also believe in conspiracy theories, which are often based on fear and mistrust of authority.

No matter what we believe, it is important to remember that beliefs are not facts. Beliefs are simply ideas that we hold to be true. And while some beliefs may be more likely to be true than others, there is no way to know for sure which beliefs are true and which are not.

The author of this book argues that we should all be open to questioning our beliefs and considering new information that may challenge them. He believes that it is important to be skeptical of beliefs that are based on fear or superstition, and to be open to beliefs that are based on evidence and reason.

This book is a must-read for anyone who is interested in the psychology of belief. It is a fascinating and thought-provoking exploration of one of the most fundamental aspects of human nature.

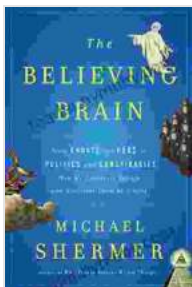
Reviews

"This book is a brilliant and insightful exploration of the human need to believe. The author argues that all beliefs, no matter how strange or irrational they may seem, are based on a fundamental human need to make sense of the world around us. This is a must-read for anyone who is interested in the psychology of belief." - Steven Pinker, author of *The Blank Slate*

"This book is a fascinating and thought-provoking exploration of one of the most fundamental aspects of human nature. The author provides a wealth of insights into how we form beliefs, why we hold on to them, and how they can shape our lives." - Daniel Kahneman, author of *Thinking, Fast and Slow*

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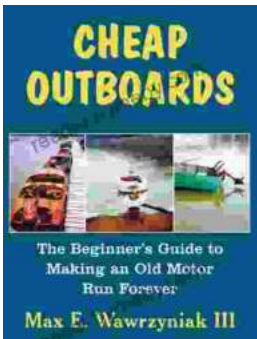
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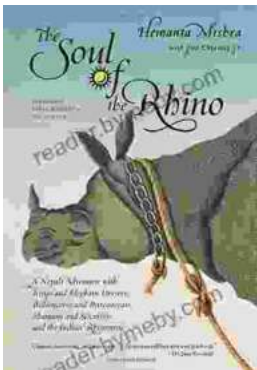
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