

Chapter 1 : The Genius in Every Black Family: Our 'Hidden Figure'

The portrait of Jacqueline is that of a very funny and complex person, who was also a musical genius. All of her family members come to life in the pages of this remarkable book. The time period (England and France in the through 70s) is also vividly painted.

So if genius is to any extent hereditary, it winks on and off through the gene pool in a way that would be difficult to measure or predict. Like Sisyphus rolling his boulder up to the top of the hill only to have it tumble down again, the human gene pool creates hereditary genius in many ways in many places only to have it come apart in the next generation. Wilson Psychologists once thought, simplistically, that genius was nothing more than high general intelligence, the capacity measured by the intelligence quotient or IQ. Most of them have led relatively successful lives but none of them, so far as I am aware, would be classified as geniuses today. At the other end of the IQ scale, a rare few of retarded or autistic persons, known as savants, can quickly specify the day of the week on which any date in history fell or, although unable to read music, can play on the piano any composition after just a single hearing. These highly specialized abilities seem all the more remarkable in people whose general intelligence may be so low that they are dependent on others for their care and sustenance. Autistic savants are not geniuses either, of course, but these remarkable people seem to me to illustrate an important fact about the structure of mind. A Autism and the modular brain Autism was first described in and is extremely variable in its manifestations. Some autists seem to be profoundly retarded and never develop language. One common theme in autism is an extraordinary lack of social motivation and social intelligence. Most autistic children are unresponsive to people, even to their mothers, and dislike being held or fondled. Unlike normal children, they do not seem to see other members of their species as especially interesting, to be studied and imitated. This may explain why even high-level autists tend to be slow in language development and why, in spite of sometimes high general intelligence, they remain insensitive to social cues. Asperger children seem to be unable to identify with other persons and therefore unable to anticipate how others will react to what they do. Evolutionary psychologists point out that human toddlers back in the Pleistocene who instinctively avoided snakes and spiders were somewhat more likely in consequence to live to maturity and to become our ancestors. Since natural selection works slowly, such a reaction to electric sockets has not yet evolved. Retarded or autistic savants seem to betoken the existence of other special-purpose modules that are capable of efficient functioning even in the presence of a low IQ. Neurologist Oliver Sacks describes some of these prodigies, such as Jedediah Buxton, a simpleminded laborer, who was a prodigious calculator. It is important to understand that the gifts of these autistic prodigies seem to go far beyond extraordinary rote memory. Lemke catches the style of any composer, from Bach to Bartok, after a single hearing, and can thereafter play any piece or improvise, effortlessly, in that style. Stephen, a profoundly autistic child, was consigned at age four to a London school for the developmentally disabled. At age seven, he began to specialize in drawing buildings, such as St. It was the sophistication of his drawings, their mastery of line and perspective, that amazed me and these were all there when he was seven. Steven could draw from memory a complex scene e. Examples like these have led psychologists to postulate the existence of numerous special intelligences which are seen in these savant cases in especially stark relief against a background of general intellectual poverty. It is of great importance to realize that such savant-like talents can also co-exist with high intelligence and in the absence of autism. The young concert pianist, Evgeny Kissin, "the most phenomenal prodigy of our time" Solomon, , p. At 30 months, "Genya sat down at the old Bechstein on which his mother taught and picked out with one finger some of the tunes he had been singing. The next day, he did the same again, and on the third day he played with both hands, using all his fingers The intellectually normal Chinese artist, Yani, displayed her artistic powers as early as did Nadia or Stephen and Sacks describes another gifted young man, now doing fundamental research in chemistry, who could read fluently and with comprehension at age two or repeat and even harmonize with any melody at the same age, and who did remarkable drawings with perspective at age three. Thus, it does not seem to be the case that savant-like gifts result from the conscription of all intellectual resources in the service of a single

function. This idea of a modular intelligence contrasts with the view of the brain as merely a general-purpose computer. Yet general intelligence is both real and important. Its role may be like that of the conductor of an orchestra in which the brass, percussion, strings, and woodwinds are the special-purpose modules. Temple Grandin, a highly intelligent autistic woman and a college professor, learned to use her general intelligence to compensate for her deficient social sensitivity. Grandin There is a useful analogy between the domains of mental and physical talent. Each Olympic sport makes different demands on different muscle groups, reaction times, gross or fine motor coordination, and so on. Because of their different genetic endowment, it is unlikely that any world-class distance runner could have become instead a world-class sprinter or weight-lifter or gymnast. Yet all world-class athletes have an unusual degree of general athletic ability. If we were to construct a soccer team of Olympic runners, sprinters, pole-vaulters, gymnasts, and boxers, they would likely beat any other scratch soccer team except one comprised of potential world-class soccer players. If we were to construct special tests for each of the several varieties of savant, tests designed to quantify their remarkable special abilities, we can be confident that, when administered to a sample of the general population, scores on these tests also would form a positive manifold. Good tonal memory would tend to go with good visual and conceptual memory as well as with the ability for mental computation this correlation among the strengths of the mental modules is far from perfect, however; I know people no smarter than I am who have much better memories, for example. Retarded savants are remarkable not just because of a particular gift but also because of the absence of the related gifts that normally go with it. Every acknowledged human genius seems to have had at least a good general intelligence together with an assortment of other gifts or attributes which, in mutually facilitating cohabitation, led to the extraordinary achievements that are the ultimate basis for classification into this special category. One of the ingredients in the recipe for genius, and which I believe may be as essential as general intelligence, is an exceptional degree of mental energy, permitting protracted periods of intensely focused concentration on the project in hand. Our question in this chapter has to do with the origins of these interacting attributes. Or, can genius be achieved? It follows from this postulate of radical environmentalism [2] that every normal human infant, however distinctive in size, shape, and appearance, must arrive equipped with a brain that is essentially identical in structure and capacity with every other new brain, just as all new Macintosh computers are essentially identical when they arrive from the factory. What differences in intellect, interests, character, or personality are to be found later in the adult must, in this view, be attributable solely to differences in subsequent experience or programming. The fact is, however, that Jefferson modeled this first sentence of the American Declaration of Independence after the language of the constitution that had just been drafted for the state of Virginia. That document read like this: No practical man of that period would have given credence to the notion that all humans are biologically equal. Charles Darwin was a scientist and scientists have to be practical people because they study the world of nature rather than the mistier realm of philosophy. Darwin knew that the offspring tend to resemble the parents. Throughout most of human history, people have assumed that the same thing is true of our species, that smart parents tend to have smart children, that the offspring of athletes tend to enjoy sports, that mean parents often have mean offspring. But certain European philosophers, not being practical men, did entertain the notion, following John Locke, that the minds of human babies begin as identical blank slates to be written on solely by experience. One important radical environmentalist was the British philosopher John Stuart Mill, a contemporary of Darwin. It is perhaps not surprising that, in his later life, Mill was inclined to attribute his own intellectual achievements to that extraordinary and intensive early training. It was not until the 20th century, however, that large numbers of intellectuals took up radical environmentalism as an article of faith. They arrived at this common delusion from different starting points and for a variety of reasons. B Marxism Karl Marx wanted to refute the prevailing assumption that the existing class structure of society was somehow preordained by God or human nature. Like many non-Marxist economists of today, he saw human individuals as interchangeable pawns at the mercy of economic forces and his utopian vision required that these same pawns, arrayed on a different board with different rules, would all behave alike and in their mutual interest. The Marxist scientists who still lead the attack on what they regard as the hereditarian heresy are too sophisticated to espouse Lamarckian ideas, but they cling to the egalitarian dream because they cannot imagine achieving the greatest good for the

greatest number unless that dream is true. Upper class white males took for granted the genetic superiority of their race and gender and considered their dominant social position to be a birth right. This position was most clearly articulated by another Boas disciple, Margaret Mead, whom he sent as a graduate student to the South Pacific with the aim of demonstrating that adolescence was less stormy and stressful in Samoa than in the United States because of cultural differences and, in particular, because of the greater sexual freedom allegedly enjoyed by young Samoans. In her book *Male and female*, Mead explicitly asserted the radical environmentalist credo: On the other hand, there is no doubt that there are marked differences in sexual attitudes and practices across human cultures and Mead was assuredly correct in insisting upon both the malleability of human culture and the important role that the culture plays in affecting human behavior. Her mistake, it seems to me, was in conflating human culture, which is relatively easy to change, with human nature, which is not.

B Behaviorism The middle half of the 20th century was the heyday of behaviorism and many behaviorists tended to be radical environmentalists. One obvious reason for this tendency was the reluctance of behaviorists to theorize about mental mechanisms; if there are no theoretical constructs referring to the brain or mind, if one deals only with S--R stimulus-response relationships rather than with S--O--R relationships where O stands for the organism or person, then it is difficult to account for individual differences, much less genetically determined differences. The founder of the movement, J. Watson, is famous for his claim: Nearly 60 years after Watson, the geneticist, Richard Lewontin, made an even more extravagant claim: By claiming nearly limitless plasticity for both psychic and physical development, Lewontin suggested that ambitious parents can make their child not only into a doctor, lawyer, or, no doubt, a genius, at will, but also into a tennis champion or a basketball superstar, if that is what the child aspires to. Watson had only hubris and wishful thinking to back up his assertions. That he chose to state it anyway is a triumph of ideology over reason and evidence.

B Nazi Racism The views and deeds of Adolf Hitler may have had more influence on the nature--nurture question than Marx or Mead or any other thinker. Nazi notions about racial differences and Aryan superiority, the cruel experiments on twins conducted by Dr. Radical environmentalism was no longer just an arguable scientific hypothesis but, rather, it became an article of antifascist faith, no longer debatable in politically correct society, not even on University campuses.

B The Decline and Fall of Radical Environmentalism The long night of radical environmentalism seems, however, to be coming to an end. Throughout the period, occasional studies appeared showing that adoptees resembled psychologically their biological parents more than they resembled the adoptive parents who reared them. Twin and family studies accumulated, showing that the degree of resemblance of pairs of related individuals tends to parallel their degree of genetic relatedness. In recent years there has been a crescendo of twin and adoption studies with mutually corroborative results, and the pendulum of informed public opinion seems to be swinging in the direction toward which these findings point. It is once again possible for reasonable, educated people to acknowledge not only that we humans differ remarkably from one another in nearly every way imaginable but, moreover, that life would be unbearable, perhaps impossible, if this were not so. There are still some elderly survivors of the Long Dark lurking about; geneticist Lewontin, psychologist Leon Kamin, and paleontologist Stephen Gould are three of the better known examples. The dawn light hurts their eyes and they want to cling to the old egalitarian dream. They might finally awaken if they were to try seriously to imagine a world populated exclusively by genetic clones of themselves. If every other person had precisely my own innate gifts and limitations I know that life would be hell. Our species since the earliest times has been dependent for its survival upon a division of labor within social groupings; an organization of specialists being more efficient than a mere congeries of individuals, the extended-family bands formed by our ancestors were therefore greater than just the sum of their component members. Our humanoid division of labor, in turn, has been especially successful because of our within-group differences in talents and interests.

A The human genome The human genome, the book of instructions for the fabrication of an individual, consists of some, pairs of genes strung out rather like beads along the DNA molecules packed within each of our 23 pairs of chromosomes. This complete genetic blueprint is contained within the nucleus of nearly every cell of the body. Genes serve as patterns for making enzymes and other proteins. Each cell is like a chemical factory in which the enzymes are the chemists that synthesize the special molecules required for life. Most of the genes

in the human genome are identical in all normal persons; they constitute the instructions that caused us to develop into *Homo sapiens* rather than into chimpanzees or butterflies or toadstools. Perhaps one-fourth of our genes are polymorphic; from one person to another in the human population there may be two to 20 or more slightly different genes, different alleles that can occupy the locus of a given polymorphic gene. For example, there is one pair of genes, located on homologous loci of one of the 23 pairs of chromosomes in the human genome, that primarily determines eye color and there are two different alleles that can occur in that polymorphic locus. If both of your eye-color genes are of the blue type, then your eyes will be predominantly blue although other genes will influence the particular shade of blue. If either or both of your eye-color genes are of the brown type, then your eyes will be predominantly brown.

Chapter 2 : A Genius in the Family - Wikipedia

*A Genius in the Family: An Intimate Memoir of Jacqueline Du Pre [Piers du Pre, Hilary du Pre] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Since her death in , Du Pre's brother and sister have felt that her life story has never been fully told.*

The best of The Saturday Evening Post in your inbox! Although he turns 65 this summer, Jamie is a still-boyish man, handsome with a full head of hair, relaxed, candid, and, like his father, Andrew Wyeth , a dapper dresser given to mandarin collars, turtlenecks, tunics, aprons, and knickersâ€”the habit of a country squire. Despite all the ways that he is like his father, and they are many, Jamie is a very different kind of artist and very much his own man. In a funny sense, though, my grandfather, who I never knew, had more of an influence on me. Wyeth was a larger-than-life figure, a swashbuckler of a man whose dramatic illustrations fired the imaginations of generations of readers beginning with his first illustration commissionâ€”a bucking bronco painted for the cover of the February 21, , issue of The Saturday Evening Post. Like his father and grandfather before him, Jamie paints both these places as well, the personal poles of the Wyeth world. Jamie generally marks his own decision to become an artist at , the year he completed the sixth grade and, at his own request, left formal education behind to study artâ€”first with his aunt, Carolyn Wyeth, and then with his father. Andrew, too, had been homeschooled and mentored by his father. Jamie, a big Davy Crockett fan at the time, still remembers the hat, the boots he wore, and the long hours spent posing for his father. I had dreams about that soldier. He painted a very strange, airless world. It exists at both levels. They hang it in a hall. He was almost threatened by Rockwell. He said he had no imaginationâ€”that he did everything from photographs with syrupy emotions. And, despite his occasional forays across the border into commercial art, his pure-art credentials remain untarnished. This peculiar little man in a wig just fascinated the heck out of me. His brush is often wild and his color riotous. He enjoys provoking his viewers, making them feel extreme emotion. He is a great animal painter. Enormous, pink, intelligent, clean, and forthright, pigs have become almost a totem animal for Jamie. By consuming and surviving twenty-two tubes of my paint, she had endeared herself to me. So I took her to our farm at Point Lookout. Painting is so difficult, it reduces the three generations thing to nothing. It is his pleasure, his birthright, and his duty.

Chapter 3 : A Genius in the Family (book) - Wikipedia

A Genius in the Family is a memoir by Piers and Hilary du Pré, which chronicles the life and career of their late sister, cellist Jacqueline du Pré. The book claims to tell the true story of their family lives, and each chapter is headed 'Piers' or 'Hilary', according to which author wrote it.

Wood and Collard make this same point in drier, more technical language: They were quite accomplished. Conclusion While virtually the entire hominin fossil record is marked by incomplete and fragmented fossils, about mya we see ape-like australopithecines appearing suddenly. When the genus *Homo* appears around 2 mya, it also does so in an abrupt fashion, without clear evidence of a transition from previous ape-like hominins. Subsequent members of the genus *Homo* appear very similar to modern humans, and their differences amount to small-scale microevolutionary changes. At the beginning of this series I quoted SMU anthropologist Ronald Wetherington telling the Texas State Board of Education that the fossil record shows an unbroken sequence documenting our gradual Darwinian evolution from ape-like species. There are many gaps and virtually no plausible transitional fossils. Thus, public claims of evolutionists to the contrary, the appearance of humans in the fossil record appears to have been anything but a gradual Darwinian evolutionary process. The Darwinian belief that humans evolved from apelike species requires inferences that go beyond the evidence and is not supported by the fossil record. For details, see Discovery Institute Press. One or More Species? Courier Forschungsinstitut Senckenberg, , ; Milford H. Courier Forschungsinstitut Senckenberg, , Leonard and Marcia L. The Known, the Unknown, and the Unknowable, ed. Ungar Oxford University Press, , Stephen Molnar, Human Variation: Races, Types, and Ethnic Groups, 4th ed. Prentice Hall, , Weber, Horst Seidler, Phillip V. Races, Types, and Ethnic Groups, 5th ed. *Homo sapiens* modern man: Johanson and Maitland Edey, Lucy: The Beginnings of Humankind New York: Cambridge University Press, ,

Chapter 4 : List of plants in the family Fabaceae | calendrierdelascience.com

In A Hole Lyrics: Dun De-e-e-e-al / I talked to [?], he in a hole / I can't let you hold no money, you in a hole / I love my brothers, I don't love no ho / And all the bitch ways that shit gon' show.

He repeats himself and drops the name: I miss the next 10 minutes of the film as I search for this mysterious cousin on my phone. He looks a lot like my cousin David, I say out loud. I was a complete stranger to Davis, but the thought of sharing a bloodline with the man who manages top-secret scientific information for the government made me incredibly proud. How did we begin? What is our future? My cell phone research revealed that Davis is as much a warrior, not just computer geek. He was a combat veteran in the Marine Corps as well as a former CIA agent who conducted covert operations in some of the most dangerous countries in the world. He even did a tour of duty at the U. After the movie which is a must-see, I just had to meet this Jerry Davis. Davis is only seven years older than me, but he moved to Southern California to live with his mother when I was 3. At the risk of looking like a stalker, I emailed him, sent a Facebook friend request, and pinged him on LinkedIn in rapid succession. He told students about being temporarily homeless when he was 12; his mother and stepfather had lost their home, forcing the family to live in a trailer and tent in a public park. He also told about how he had to work and attend a two-year college before he could enroll in a four-year college. And when he applied to a training program to become an astronaut—his childhood dream—he was denied. I was struck by a question a girl at Butler College Prep asked him: How did you keep from giving up when life got hard? And when he finally returned to public school in the 10th grade, he was one to two grade levels ahead of everyone else. Because public schools are failing to educate and cultivate the strengths of Black children at alarming rates, African-American families have become the fastest growing group of homeschoolers. Hold on to your dreams—no matter what. I watched with pride as my cousin put his brilliance as a successful, highly-educated Black man on full display. He left each student with an official NASA emblem to place on their favorite folder or book. I stuck mine on my file cabinet at work. He joins the ranks of other relatives like my aunt Dr. Lonnie Edwards, distinguished college professor and longtime school district administrator in Mississippi and Georgia. The evils of slavery may have stripped African Americans of much of our ancestral history, but tools like Ancestry. Cousin Jerry, Aunt Joyce, and Uncle Lonnie and others have taught me that genius runs red in my veins. Now my year-old daughter knows.

Chapter 5 : List of plants in the family Rosaceae | calendrierdelascience.com

A prolific inventor and genius, he also contributed to the development of the incandescent carbon lamp, automatic sprinkling devices, steam and vacuum pumps and other inventions which greatly influenced our present life.

Chapter 6 : du PrÃ© - A GENIUS IN THE FAMILY

A Genius in the Family may refer to. A Genius in the Family, a memoir about Jacqueline du PrÃ©; A Genius in the Family, a memoir by Hiram Percy Maxim. So Goes My Love, an American comedy film based on the memoir by Hiram Percy Maxim, released in the UK as A Genius in the Family.

Chapter 7 : Wyeth Family Genius | The Saturday Evening Post

Get this from a library! Genius in the family. [Jean Godfrey; Kathy Godfrey] -- Story of the Godfrey family written by two of the sisters of Arthur, television and radio celebrity, recalling incidents of a cheerful and entertaining nature.

Chapter 8 : The Genus Homo: All in the Family | Evolution News

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worthy of your attention and highlight them in our Pro Connect email alert.

Chapter 9 : Smart-Baby Blanket for the Future Genius in Your Family | Knitting Nuances

The word "Genius" is designed to look like symbols from the periodic table of elements! Easily decorate your mortarboard by applying these foam stickers to your graduation cap. Genius In The Family Graduation Cap Decorating Kit product details.