

of himself as a prophet, without analyzing the vast difference between a prophet, whose spiritual character is humble and sophisticated, and Owens, who was vengeful and childish. Mishlove was clearly disturbed by Owens; near the end of their lengthy relationship, he wrote Owens a long letter chastising him for his unwillingness to grow spiritually. But his basic conclusion is that Owens was the way he was mostly because he received so little respect from society for his powers. This is quite a weak conclusion, especially concerning a man who misused his massive powers so stupendously.

However, Mishlove explicitly encourages readers to draw their own conclusions about Owens' behavior. He also addresses several other major issues, including Owens' ability to manifest UFOs and his allegations that the power came from beings. This last is an interesting topic, little researched. But, as Mishlove points out, these superpowers may in fact come from extraterrestrial beings, though smaller paranormal powers, more widely distributed, may not. He also provides a short end chapter on some of the new ideas in modern physics that make many of Owens' claims less outrageous than they might otherwise seem.

There is no other book like this one about a unique man and his abilities. Mishlove has done a very good job by bringing the issues before the public eye, and for this we should be thankful to him.

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The Madness of Adam and Eve: How Schizophrenia Shaped Humanity by David Horrobin. London: Bantam Press (Transworld Publishers), 2001. 275 pp. £18.99, cloth. ISBN 0593-046498. (Available through amazon.co.uk.)

“All the good and bad characteristics of humanity seem writ large in the children of schizophrenic parents” (p. 144).

Much evidence for this empirical claim is adduced in this fascinating book, which has several facets. In the first instance, it is essential reading for anyone who knows sufferers from schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, or dyslexia; the book offers intriguing hints about the genesis of the problems and some genuine hope for better treatments. In addition, this book offers a far-reaching, detailed, and plausible scenario of genetic mutations and environmental factors that led to the evolution of *Homo sapiens* from an ancestor held in common with chimpanzees. For anomalists and students of science, the book offers illustrations of serendipitous discovery (p. 64) and of the (grudging, inadequate, or dismissive) reception of genuinely novel ideas (p. 160). For medical scientists and practicing physicians, the book illustrates the wealth of knowledge and understanding attainable through careful clinical observation of apparent

correlations and happenings. For all of us there is food for thought about how to maintain scientific progress as it increasingly calls for cross-disciplinary work (see, for example, pp. 210, 224, and the epilogue) and how to expand medical knowledge under the (ethically quite proper) constraints imposed on clinical trials in most developed countries (see p. 221).

Horrobin has, among other things, taught medicine, founded biotech companies, and been advisor for 3 decades to the Schizophrenia Association of Great Britain. Evidence from a number of directions supports his grand synthesis, which is also made all the more plausible by several testable hypotheses that are likely to be tested within a decade or two. It is, furthermore, persuasive that he reports (e.g., on p. 224) some results that were not what he had anticipated. Along the way some fascinating facts are cited, for example, that a standard treatment for severe schizophrenia (in the 20th century!) was deliberate infection with malaria and that a Nobel Prize was awarded in 1927 for discovery of this treatment.

It is tempting to describe in more detail both Horrobin's intriguing syntheses and the many remarkable facts cited along the way. However, this book has some of the appeal that a mystery novel does; the best service to readers probably is to recommend the book in the strongest possible terms while preserving an element of suspense about the details. Readers should, however, be forewarned that there is a degree of repetition throughout the book, possibly inevitable as the various strands of evidence and argument are pulled together; and in places the technicalities of physiology or biochemistry may seem daunting. In that case, by all means skip the technical stuff, but don't fail to read further. Among the questions discussed or clues adduced are these:

- What is the most obvious physical or physiological difference between chimpanzees and other apes on the one hand, and humans on the other?
- What does it signify that our brains are 250% larger than those of chimps but contain only 100% more neurons?
- What clues to evolutionary scenarios are afforded by the way in which human physiology makes use of water?
- Why has the rate of cultural progress of *Homo* and ancestors changed so dramatically at least a couple of times, about 100,000 and again about 10,000 years ago? And why were these changes also associated with a dramatic rise in the diversity of cultures?
- Is there truth to the popular folklore that genius and madness are closely allied? Is it really the case that "Without the genes which in combination cause schizophrenia we would be like Neanderthals or *Homo erectus*" rather than *Homo sapiens*? (p. 207)
- Will further work substantiate initial indications that simple dietary supplements can synergize or even substitute for anti-schizophrenic drugs? Can diet really reduce the incidence of violence (by between 30 and 50%!) among prison populations? "Perhaps it is possible, by manipulat-

ing the environment, to prevent the expression of the illness even in those who have a 100% genetic risk” (p. 208).

- How does it come about that the incidence of schizophrenia is much the same in all studied populations: “from the Canadian Arctic to Patagonia, from Lapland to the Cape of Good Hope, from Siberia to the world of the Australian Aborigines” the incidence is between “0.5 and 1.5%—and usually between 0.7% and 1.0%... . No other illness shares a similar distribution.” (p. 119)
- Why should parents in the United States using milk formula for their babies prefer that formulated for premature babies? (see p. 93)
- Why are schizophrenics so much less prone to arthritis? Why do they not flush under large doses of niacin? Can there be a physical diagnostic test for this psychiatric disorder?

In addition, Horrobin’s theses and lines of argument have implications for some other topics as well:

- Are the dietary habits of adolescents much more important, even, than is currently believed? If dietary supplements can lessen the incidence of violence in prisons, might they also do so in schools? (see p. 170).
- Does this evolutionary scenario have implications for the probability of extraterrestrial intelligences? About the likely longevity of extraterrestrial civilizations?

If none of these questions interest you, then you may not find this book as exciting as I did.

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