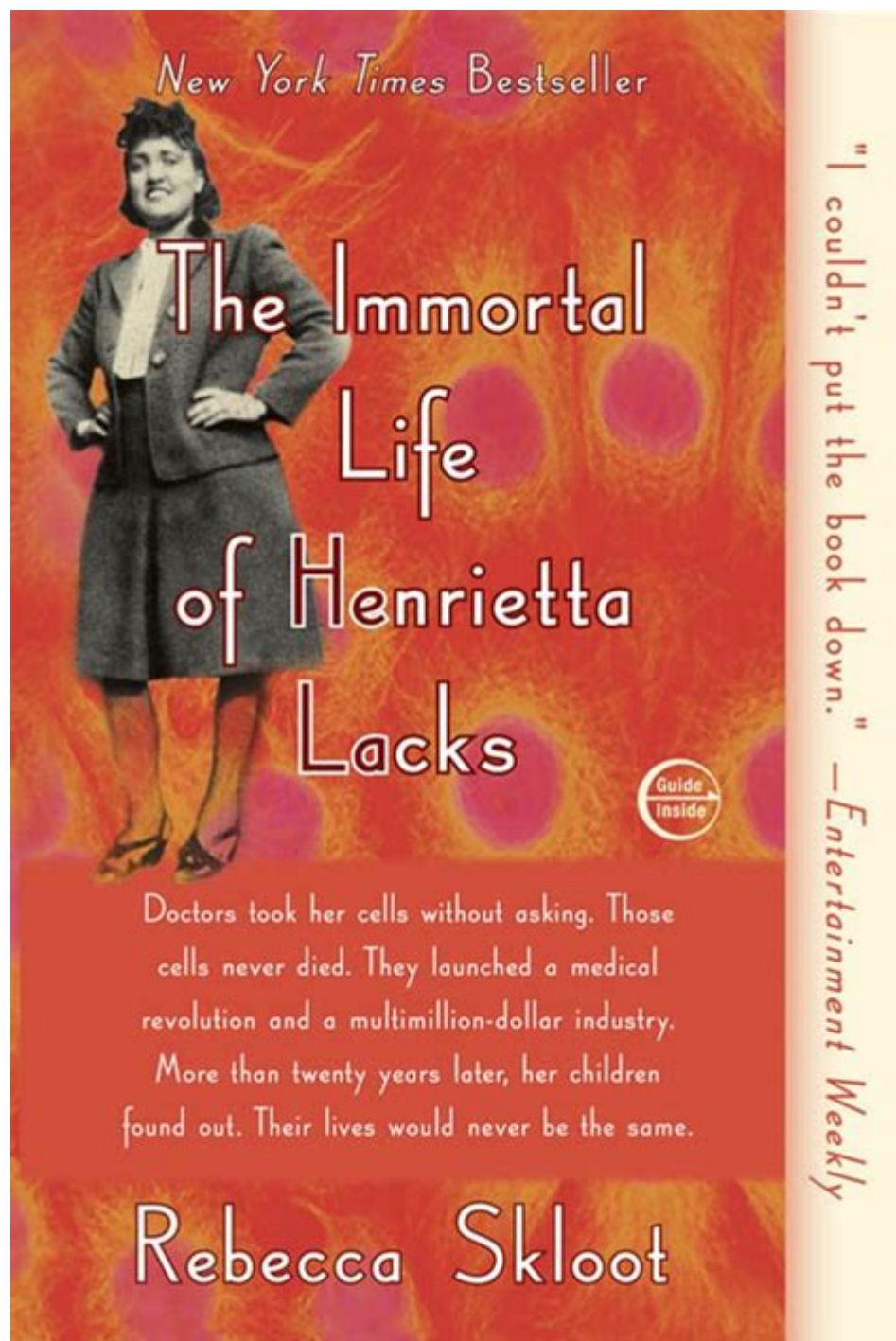


The Immortal Life Of Henrietta Lacks Summary



The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks: A Summary and Exploration

The story of Henrietta Lacks is one of profound scientific impact interwoven with a deeply unsettling ethical dilemma. This blog post provides a comprehensive summary of Rebecca Skloot's acclaimed book, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, exploring its key themes, characters, and enduring legacy. We'll delve into Henrietta's life, the revolutionary contribution of her cells, and the ongoing ethical debates surrounding their use. This in-depth analysis aims to provide a clear understanding of this powerful and important narrative, making it a valuable resource for students, researchers, and anyone interested in medical history, ethics, and social justice.

Henrietta Lacks: A Life Before HeLa

Born Loretta Pleasant in 1920 in Roanoke, Virginia, Henrietta Lacks lived a life shaped by poverty, racism, and the realities of rural life in the Jim Crow South. She married David "Day" Lacks at a young age and raised five children. Her life, while marked by hardship, was filled with the love and support of her family. Understanding Henrietta's background is crucial to grasping the full significance of the events that followed. This section highlights the injustices she faced, providing context for the ethical complexities at the heart of the story.

The Discovery of HeLa Cells: A Scientific Revolution

In 1951, Henrietta was diagnosed with cervical cancer. During her treatment at Johns Hopkins Hospital, samples of her cancerous cells were taken without her knowledge or consent. These cells, unlike any others previously studied, proved remarkably resilient and capable of continuous replication. This discovery, completely unintentional, revolutionized medical research, paving the way for countless breakthroughs in virology, immunology, and cancer research. The "HeLa" cells, named after Henrietta, became a cornerstone of modern biological science.

The Ethical Quandaries Surrounding HeLa Cells

The use of Henrietta's cells, however, raises significant ethical questions. The lack of informed consent, the exploitation of a marginalized community, and the commercialization of her cells without any benefit to her family are central themes of the book. This section explores the ethical debate surrounding HeLa cells, examining the implications of scientific advancement achieved at the cost of individual rights and dignity. We'll discuss the evolving understanding of informed consent and patient rights in the context of medical research.

The Lacks Family: Legacy and Struggle

Rebecca Skloot's book meticulously documents the struggles of the Lacks family to grapple with the legacy of Henrietta's cells. They wrestled with issues of privacy, compensation, and the lack of acknowledgment for Henrietta's contribution to scientific progress. The story delves into their complex relationships and their ongoing fight for recognition and justice. This section examines the family's perspective, shedding light on their emotional journey and their fight for their mother's legacy.

The Enduring Impact of HeLa Cells and the Ongoing Dialogue

The story of Henrietta Lacks is not simply a historical account; it's a continuing narrative that raises crucial questions about medical ethics, informed consent, and racial justice. The ongoing research using HeLa cells, and the continued debate surrounding its ethical implications, ensure that Henrietta's story remains relevant and powerfully instructive. This section explores the future implications of HeLa research and the necessity for ongoing ethical reflection within scientific communities.

Conclusion

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks is a compelling and deeply moving story that compels readers to consider the complex intersection of science, ethics, and social justice. It serves as a powerful reminder of the human cost of scientific progress and the importance of respecting individual rights and dignity in all aspects of medical research. Henrietta Lacks' legacy continues to resonate, urging us to engage in a thoughtful and ethical approach to scientific advancement.

FAQs

1. Did Henrietta Lacks know her cells were being used for research? No, cells were taken without her knowledge or consent.
2. Did the Lacks family receive any financial compensation for the use of HeLa cells? Initially, no. However, later efforts have been made to provide some compensation and recognition.
3. What medical advancements were made possible by HeLa cells? HeLa cells were instrumental in the development of the polio vaccine, cancer research, gene mapping, and in vitro fertilization (IVF) techniques.
4. How did Rebecca Skloot gain the trust of the Lacks family? Skloot spent years building a relationship with the Lacks family, earning their trust through patience, respect, and a genuine commitment to telling their story accurately.

5. What is the significance of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* beyond the scientific context? The book explores broader themes of racial inequality, medical ethics, and the importance of respecting individuals even after their death. It highlights the power of storytelling in addressing complex social issues.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* Rebecca Skloot, 2010-02-02 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • “The story of modern medicine and bioethics—and, indeed, race relations—is refracted beautifully, and movingly.”—Entertainment Weekly NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE FROM HBO® STARRING OPRAH WINFREY AND ROSE BYRNE • ONE OF THE “MOST INFLUENTIAL” (CNN), “DEFINING” (LITHUB), AND “BEST” (THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER) BOOKS OF THE DECADE • ONE OF ESSENCE’S 50 MOST IMPACTFUL BLACK BOOKS OF THE PAST 50 YEARS • WINNER OF THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE HEARTLAND PRIZE FOR NONFICTION NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The New York Times Book Review • Entertainment Weekly • O: The Oprah Magazine • NPR • Financial Times • New York • Independent (U.K.) • Times (U.K.) • Publishers Weekly • Library Journal • Kirkus Reviews • Booklist • Globe and Mail Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor Southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors, yet her cells—taken without her knowledge—became one of the most important tools in medicine: The first “immortal” human cells grown in culture, which are still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years. HeLa cells were vital for developing the polio vaccine; uncovered secrets of cancer, viruses, and the atom bomb’s effects; helped lead to important advances like in vitro fertilization, cloning, and gene mapping; and have been bought and sold by the billions. Yet Henrietta Lacks remains virtually unknown, buried in an unmarked grave. Henrietta’s family did not learn of her “immortality” until more than twenty years after her death, when scientists investigating HeLa began using her husband and children in research without informed consent. And though the cells had launched a multimillion-dollar industry that sells human biological materials, her family never saw any of the profits. As Rebecca Skloot so brilliantly shows, the story of the Lacks family—past and present—is inextricably connected to the dark history of experimentation on African Americans, the birth of bioethics, and the legal battles over whether we control the stuff we are made of. Over the decade it took to uncover this story, Rebecca became enmeshed in the lives of the Lacks family—especially Henrietta’s daughter Deborah. Deborah was consumed with questions: Had scientists cloned her mother? Had they killed her to harvest her cells? And if her mother was so important to medicine, why couldn’t her children afford health insurance? Intimate in feeling, astonishing in scope, and impossible to put down, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* captures the beauty and drama of scientific discovery, as well as its human consequences.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *The Skeleton Cupboard: The Making of a Clinical Psychologist* Tanya Byron, 2015-04-07 Recounts the patient stories that most influenced Professor Tanya Byron, covering years of training that forced her to confront the harsh realities of the lives of her patients and the demons of her own family's history. Among others, we meet Ray, a violent sociopath desperate to be treated with tenderness and compassion; Mollie, a talented teenager intent on starving herself; and Imogen, a twelve-year-old so haunted by a secret that she's intent on killing herself. Byron brings the reader along as she uncovers the reasons each of these individuals behave the way they do, resulting in a ... psychological mystery that sheds light on mental illness and what its treatment tells us about ourselves--

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: **Summary and Analysis of The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks** Worth Books, 2017-01-10 So much to read, so little time? Get an in-depth summary of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, the #1 bestseller about science, race, and medical ethics. For decades, scientists have been using “HeLa” cells in biological research, from developing the polio vaccine and studying the nature of cancer to observing how human biology behaves in

outer space. This famous cell line began as a sample taken from a poor African American mother of five named Henrietta Lacks. A cancer patient, Henrietta Lacks went through medical testing but never gave consent for the use of her cells. She died of cervical cancer in 1951, without ever knowing that the samples were intended for extensive medical research. This summary of the #1 New York Times bestseller by Rebecca Skloot tells Henrietta's story and reveals what happened when her family found out that her cells were being bought and sold in labs around the world. With historical context, character profiles, a timeline of key events, and other features, this summary and analysis of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* is intended to complement your reading experience and bring you closer to a great work of nonfiction.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Study Guide: the Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot (SuperSummary) SuperSummary, 2019-02-16 SuperSummary, a modern alternative to SparkNotes and CliffsNotes, offers high-quality study guides for challenging works of literature. This 38-page guide for *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot includes detailed chapter summaries and analysis covering 38 chapters, as well as several more in-depth sections of expert-written literary analysis. Featured content includes commentary on major characters, 10 important quotes, discussion topics, and key themes like Scientific Ethics and Informed Consent.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Summary of The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks Alexander Cooper, 2021-10-10 Summary of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* Rebecca Skloot, a specialist in science and medicine, authored *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, which has become one of her best-selling books. The book was published in 2010 and it remained on The New York Best seller list for a long time. This book is about the subjects of science and medicine, focusing on the story of a young woman who is struggling hard against cervical cancer. The story shows how this young patient and all around her are affected by the disease, and the benefits to scientific research that result from her disease. The book also brings into focus the social class and racism perspective which made the book a best seller. The author writes in the book that she got most of the information by studying the journal of the young woman's daughter. Because this did not provide enough information to produce the book, she did more research on other content so she could find enough detail to present the whole story. In addition, Oprah Winfrey came up with the idea to turn the story into a Home Box Office movie. Overall, the book is an interesting read, which revolves around social and race issues, highlighting the plight of African-American people who have suffered considerably in the United States. Here is a Preview of What You Will Get: □ A Full Book Summary □ An Analysis □ Fun quizzes □ Quiz Answers □ Etc. Get a copy of this summary and learn about the book.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* Pembroke Notes, 2013-12 How to Use This Book This book is to be used alongside the bestselling book, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot for anyone interested in learning about one of the most important tools in medicine, vital for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping, and more, the HeLa cells. This is also the story of the collision between ethics, race, and medicine; of scientific discovery and faith healing; and a daughter consumed with questions about the mother she never knew. For students: The study questions are in order and follow Rebecca Skloot's narrative. Answer questions as you read the book. Answers follow each question. For teachers: This is an easy and interesting resource to help your students learn about a specific tool used in medicine, the HeLa cell and how it originated and the impact its discovery had on medicine and the population. Use your own unique teaching style to supplement the Pembroke Notes with engaging activities and links for further investigating. With the new Common Core standards and a push to increased rigor, I have added a Writing Workshop section at the end of my book to help you with writing assignments. For homeschoools: Your high school student will love the easy guide to help him/her in her reading *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. Parents, be prepared for active discussions with your teenager while you read along. A Writing Workshop is supplied at the end of the book as a guide.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Typhoid Mary Judith Walzer Leavitt,

2014-02-18 Discover the forgotten story of Mary Mallon—the real Typhoid Mary—in this humanizing portrait offering a window into the ethical dilemmas of public health policy that continue to haunt us in the COVID era. She was an Irish immigrant cook. Between 1900 and 1907, she infected 22 New Yorkers with typhoid fever through her puddings and cakes; one of them died. Tracked down through epidemiological detective work, she was finally apprehended as she hid behind a barricade of trashcans. To protect the public's health, authorities isolated her on Manhattan's North Brother Island, where she died some 30 years later. This book tells the remarkable story of Mary Mallon—the real Typhoid Mary. Combining social history with biography, historian Judith Leavitt re-creates early 20th-century New York City, a world of strict class divisions and prejudice against immigrants and women. Leavitt engages the reader with the excitement of the early days of microbiology and brings to life the conflicting perspectives of journalists, public health officials, the law, and Mary Mallon herself. Leavitt's readable account illuminates dilemmas that continue to haunt us in the age of COVID-19. To what degree are we willing to sacrifice individual liberty to protect the public's health? How far should we go? For anyone who is concerned about the threats and quandaries posed by new epidemics, Typhoid Mary is a vivid reminder of the human side of disease and disease control.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Life, Death, and Immortality Terrill G.

Hayes, Betty Fisher, 2006 The Journey of the Soul begins and ends by answering the weightiest questions we can pose about our reality as human beings: What is the purpose of life? What is death? How do we attain true happiness? What is the soul and how does it develop? What is the nature of the afterlife? Will we know and recognize our loved ones? Answers to these questions and more are found in this profound and comforting collection of readings, meditations, and prayers from the Baha'i writings.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Hidden Valley Road Robert Kolker,

2020-04-07 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • OPRAH'S BOOK CLUB PICK • ONE OF GQ's TOP 50 BOOKS OF LITERARY JOURNALISM IN THE 21st CENTURY • The heartrending story of a midcentury American family with twelve children, six of them diagnosed with schizophrenia, that became science's great hope in the quest to understand the disease. Reads like a medical detective journey and sheds light on a topic so many of us face: mental illness. —Oprah Winfrey Don and Mimi Galvin seemed to be living the American dream. After World War II, Don's work with the Air Force brought them to Colorado, where their twelve children perfectly spanned the baby boom: the oldest born in 1945, the youngest in 1965. In those years, there was an established script for a family like the Galvins--aspiration, hard work, upward mobility, domestic harmony--and they worked hard to play their parts. But behind the scenes was a different story: psychological breakdown, sudden shocking violence, hidden abuse. By the mid-1970s, six of the ten Galvin boys, one after another, were diagnosed as schizophrenic. How could all this happen to one family? What took place inside the house on Hidden Valley Road was so extraordinary that the Galvins became one of the first families to be studied by the National Institute of Mental Health. Their story offers a shadow history of the science of schizophrenia, from the era of institutionalization, lobotomy, and the schizophrenogenic mother to the search for genetic markers for the disease, always amid profound disagreements about the nature of the illness itself. And unbeknownst to the Galvins, samples of their DNA informed decades of genetic research that continues today, offering paths to treatment, prediction, and even eradication of the disease for future generations. With clarity and compassion, bestselling and award-winning author Robert Kolker uncovers one family's unforgettable legacy of suffering, love, and hope.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: How Starbucks Saved My Life Michael Gates

Gill, 2007-09-20 Now in paperback, the national bestselling riches-to-rags true story of an advertising executive who had it all, then lost it all—and was finally redeemed by his new job, and his twenty-eight-year-old boss, at Starbucks. In his fifties, Michael Gates Gill had it all: a mansion in the suburbs, a wife and loving children, a six-figure salary, and an Ivy League education. But in a

few short years, he lost his job, got divorced, and was diagnosed with a brain tumor. With no money or health insurance, he was forced to get a job at Starbucks. Having gone from power lunches to scrubbing toilets, from being served to serving, Michael was a true fish out of water. But fate brings an unexpected teacher into his life who opens his eyes to what living well really looks like. The two seem to have nothing in common: She is a young African American, the daughter of a drug addict; he is used to being the boss but reports to her now. For the first time in his life he experiences being a member of a minority trying hard to survive in a challenging new job. He learns the value of hard work and humility, as well as what it truly means to respect another person. Behind the scenes at one of America's most intriguing businesses, an inspiring friendship is born, a family begins to heal, and, thanks to his unlikely mentor, Michael Gill at last experiences a sense of self-worth and happiness he has never known before. Watch a QuickTime trailer for this book.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Summary of The Immortal Life Of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot QuickRead, Alyssa Burnette, How one woman's DNA has lived forever. Written by science author Rebecca Skloot, *The Immortal Life Of Henrietta Lacks* (2011) investigates the intersection of racism and inequality in the medical community. Henrietta Lacks was a poor, Black tobacco farmer from the Southern US-- but the medical community knows her as HeLa (pronounced hee-lah). This is the story of Henrietta and her cells-- which were harvested without her consent-- and their immortal impact on the future of science and medicine. Do you want more free book summaries like this? Download our app for free at <https://www.QuickRead.com/App> and get access to hundreds of free book and audiobook summaries. DISCLAIMER: This book summary is meant as a summary and an analysis and not a replacement for the original work. If you like this summary please consider purchasing the original book to get the full experience as the original author intended it to be. If you are the original author of any book published on QuickRead and want us to remove it, please contact us at hello@quickread.com.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *Henrietta Lacks the Untold Story* Ron Lacks, 2020-09 New Author Ron Lacks, tells a behind the scenes story of what happened in the past 9 years to his family in his new book *Henrietta Lacks The Untold Story* Ron Lacks is the oldest grandson of Henrietta Lacks. He takes you on the inside of a story that has haunted him for the past 9 years! This book will definitely answer your questions as to how the family is really doing now. From Clover to Baltimore... giving you an inside look at what happen behind closed doors, that ultimately divided a once strong family.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *The Strange Order of Things* Antonio Damasio, 2018-02-06 From one of our preeminent neuroscientists: a landmark reflection that spans the biological and social sciences, offering a new way of understanding the origins of life, feeling, and culture. *The Strange Order of Things* is a pathbreaking investigation into homeostasis, the condition of that regulates human physiology within the range that makes possible not only the survival but also the flourishing of life. Antonio Damasio makes clear that we descend biologically, psychologically, and even socially from a long lineage that begins with single living cells; that our minds and cultures are linked by an invisible thread to the ways and means of ancient unicellular life and other primitive life-forms; and that inherent in our very chemistry is a powerful force, a striving toward life maintenance that governs life in all its guises, including the development of genes that help regulate and transmit life. In *The Strange Order of Things*, Damasio gives us a new way of comprehending the world and our place in it.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *The Girls of Atomic City* Denise Kiernan, 2014-03-11 This is the story of the young women of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, who unwittingly played a crucial role in one of the most significant moments in U.S. history. The Tennessee town of Oak Ridge was created from scratch in 1942. One of the Manhattan Project's secret cities. All knew something big was happening at Oak Ridge, but few could piece together the true nature of their work until the bomb Little Boy was dropped over Hiroshima, Japan, and the secret was out. The reverberations from their work there, work they did not fully understand at the time, are still being felt today.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *County* David A. Ansell, 2012-05-01 The

amazing tale of "County" is the story of one of America's oldest and most unusual urban hospitals. From its inception as a "poor house" dispensing free medical care to indigents, Chicago's Cook County Hospital has been renowned as a teaching hospital and the healthcare provider of last resort for the city's uninsured. Ansell covers more than thirty years of its history, beginning in the late 1970s when the author began his internship, to the "Final Rounds" when the enormous iconic Victorian hospital building was replaced. Ansell writes of the hundreds of doctors who underwent rigorous training with him. He writes of politics, from contentious union strikes to battles against "patient dumping," and public health, depicting the AIDS crisis and the Out of Printening of County's HIV/AIDS clinic, the first in the city. And finally it is a coming-of-age story for a young doctor set against a backdrOut of Print of race, segregation, and poverty. This is a riveting account.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *A Night Divided (Scholastic Gold)* Jennifer A. Nielsen, 2015-08-25 From NYT bestselling author Jennifer A. Nielsen comes a stunning thriller about a girl who must escape to freedom after the Berlin Wall divides her family between east and west. *A Night Divided* joins the Scholastic Gold line, which features award-winning and beloved novels. Includes exclusive bonus content!With the rise of the Berlin Wall, Gerta finds her family suddenly divided. She, her mother, and her brother Fritz live on the eastern side, controlled by the Soviets. Her father and middle brother, who had gone west in search of work, cannot return home. Gerta knows it is dangerous to watch the wall, yet she can't help herself. She sees the East German soldiers with their guns trained on their own citizens; she, her family, her neighbors and friends are prisoners in their own city. But one day on her way to school, Gerta spots her father on a viewing platform on the western side, pantomiming a peculiar dance. Gerta concludes that her father wants her and Fritz to tunnel beneath the wall, out of East Berlin. However, if they are caught, the consequences will be deadly. No one can be trusted. Will Gerta and her family find their way to freedom?

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *Terrible Typhoid Mary* Susan Campbell Bartoletti, 2015 What happens when a person's reputation has been forever damaged? With archival photographs and text among other primary sources, this riveting biography of Mary Mallon by the Sibert medalist and Newbery Honor winner Susan Bartoletti looks beyond the tabloid scandal of Mary's controversial life. How she was treated by medical and legal officials reveals a lesser-known story of human and constitutional rights, entangled with the science of pathology and enduring questions about who Mary Mallon really was. How did her name become synonymous with deadly disease? And who is really responsible for the lasting legacy of Typhoid Mary? This thorough exploration includes an author's note, timeline, annotated source notes, and bibliography.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *The Social Life of DNA* Alondra Nelson, 2016 The unexpected story of how genetic testing is affecting race in America We know DNA is a master key that unlocks medical and forensic secrets, but its genealogical life is both revelatory and endlessly fascinating. Tracing genealogy is now the second-most popular hobby amongst Americans, as well as the second-most visited online category. This billion-dollar industry has spawned popular television shows, websites, and Internet communities, and a booming heritage tourism circuit. The tsunami of interest in genetic ancestry tracing from the African American community has been especially overwhelming. In *The Social Life of DNA*, Alondra Nelson takes us on an unprecedented journey into how the double helix has wound its way into the heart of the most urgent contemporary social issues around race. For over a decade, Nelson has deeply studied this phenomenon. Artfully weaving together keenly observed interactions with root-seekers alongside illuminating historical details and revealing personal narrative, she shows that genetic genealogy is a new tool for addressing old and enduring issues. In *The Social Life of DNA*, she explains how these cutting-edge DNA-based techniques are being used in myriad ways, including grappling with the unfinished business of slavery: to foster reconciliation, to establish ties with African ancestral homelands, to rethink and sometimes alter citizenship, and to make legal claims for slavery reparations specifically based on ancestry. Nelson incisively shows that DNA is a portal to the past that yields insight for the present and future, shining a light on social traumas and historical injustices that still resonate

today. Science can be a crucial ally to activism to spur social change and transform twenty-first-century racial politics. But Nelson warns her readers to be discerning: for the social repair we seek can't be found in even the most sophisticated science. Engrossing and highly original, *The Social Life of DNA* is a must-read for anyone interested in race, science, history and how our reckoning with the past may help us to chart a more just course for tomorrow.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *The Go-Giver* Bob Burg, John David Mann, 2007-12-27 A new edition with expanded content is available now, "The Go-Giver, Expanded Edition: A Little Story About a Powerful Business Idea" An engaging book that brings new relevance to the old proverb "Give and you shall receive" The Go-Giver tells the story of an ambitious young man named Joe who yearns for success. Joe is a true go-getter, though sometimes he feels as if the harder and faster he works, the further away his goals seem to be. And so one day, desperate to land a key sale at the end of a bad quarter, he seeks advice from the enigmatic Pindar, a legendary consultant referred to by his many devotees simply as the Chairman. Over the next week, Pindar introduces Joe to a series of "go-givers:" a restaurateur, a CEO, a financial adviser, a real estate broker, and the "Connector," who brought them all together. Pindar's friends share with Joe the Five Laws of Stratospheric Success and teach him how to open himself up to the power of giving. Joe learns that changing his focus from getting to giving—putting others' interests first and continually adding value to their lives—ultimately leads to unexpected returns. Imparted with wit and grace, *The Go-Giver* is a heartwarming and inspiring tale that brings new relevance to the old proverb "Give and you shall receive." From the Hardcover edition.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *Get Well Soon* Jennifer Wright, 2017-02-07 Examines the gruesome, morbid details of some of the worst plagues in human history, as well as stories of the heroic figures who fought to ease their suffering. With her signature mix of ... research and ... storytelling, and not a little dark humor, Jennifer Wright explores history's most gripping and deadly outbreaks--

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *Brain on Fire* Susannah Cahalan, 2012-11-13 NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE STARRING CHLOË GRACE MORETZ A "captivating" (The New York Times Book Review), award-winning memoir and instant New York Times bestseller that goes far beyond its riveting medical mystery, *Brain on Fire* is a powerful account of one woman's struggle to recapture her identity. When twenty-four-year-old Susannah Cahalan woke up alone in a hospital room, strapped to her bed and unable to move or speak, she had no memory of how she'd gotten there. Days earlier, she had been on the threshold of a new, adult life: at the beginning of her first serious relationship and a promising career at a major New York newspaper. Now she was labeled as violent, psychotic, a flight risk. What happened? In an "unforgettable" (Elle), "stunningly brave" (NPR), and breathtaking narrative, Susannah tells the astonishing true story of her descent into madness, her family's inspiring faith in her, and the lifesaving diagnosis that almost didn't happen. "A fascinating look at the disease that...could have cost this vibrant, vital young woman her life" (People), *Brain on Fire* is an unforgettable exploration of memory and identity, faith and love, and a profoundly compelling tale of survival and perseverance.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *Henrietta Lacks* Naven Johnson, 2018-02-16 Who Was Henrietta Lacks? On a bright day of August 1st, in the year of 1920, Eliza and Johnny Pleasant brought forth a girl Loretta Pleasant, who's name was later on changed to Henrietta Lacks for reasons unknown to the family. As she grew up, she was given the nickname Hennie. At four years of age her birth mother died of birth complications from her tenth child. Following the hardship of taking care of the children solely, after the demise of his wife, Johnny moved to Clover, Virginia. He then gave guardianship of his children to his folks. Lacks moved in with her grandfather Tommy Lacks, in a two-story log cabin initially owned by her great grandfather and great uncle (it once served as slaves' quarter on the farm). She shared a room with David 'Day' Lacks, nine years old at the time. He was her cousin, who would later be her husband, and had been there since 1905.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *The Best American Science Writing 2011* Rebecca Skloot, Floyd Skloot, Jesse Cohen, 2011-09-27 Edited by Rebecca Skloot, award-winning

science writer and New York Times bestselling author of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, and her father, Floyd Skloot, an award-winning poet and writer, and past contributor to the series, *The Best American Science Writing 2011* collects into one volume the most crucial, thought-provoking, and engaging science writing of the year. Culled from a wide variety of publications, these selections of outstanding journalism cover the full spectrum of scientific inquiry, providing a comprehensive overview of the most compelling, relevant, and exciting developments in the world of science. Provocative and engaging, *The Best American Science Writing 2011* reveals just how far science has brought us—and where it is headed next.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: The Unfit Heiress Audrey Clare Farley, 2021-04-20 NAMED A BEST BOOK OF 2021 BY THE NEW YORK POST AND BOOK RIOT NAMED A BEST TRUE CRIME BOOK OF 2021 BY CRIMEREADS For readers of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* and *The Phantom of Fifth Avenue*, a sensational story told with nuance and humanity (Susannah Cahalan, #1 New York Times bestselling author) about the sordid court battle between Ann Cooper Hewitt and her socialite mother. At the turn of the twentieth century, emboldened American women began to seek passion and livelihood outside the home. This alarmed authorities, who feared over-sexed women could destroy civilization, either by crossing the color line or passing their evident defects on to their children. Set against this backdrop, *The Unfit Heiress* chronicles the fight for inheritance between Ann Cooper Hewitt and her socialite mother Maryon, who had her daughter sterilized without her knowledge. A sensational court case ensued, and powerful eugenicists saw an opportunity to restrict reproductive rights in America for decades to come. This riveting story unfolds through the brilliant research of Audrey Clare Farley, who captures the interior lives of these women on the pages and poses questions that remain relevant today: What does it mean to be unfit for motherhood? How do racial anxieties continue to influence who does and does not reproduce? In the battle for reproductive rights, can we forgive those who side against us? And can we forgive our mothers if they are the ones who inflict the deepest wounds?

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Summary: the Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks Abbey Beathan, 2018-07-07 *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot | Book Summary | Abbey Beathan (Disclaimer: This is NOT the original book. If you're looking for the original book, search this link: <http://amzn.to/2Fus3AK>) The story of a poor southern tobacco farmer who became one of the most important assets in medical research. Henrietta Lacks was a woman who was born to make a difference. Her cells were completely unique, they had the ability to proliferate indefinitely. She was the bearer of the first immortal human cells grown in culture, which are still alive even though she passed away sixty years ago. Henrietta Lacks served a key role for the development of polio vaccine, cancer research and even studies related to atomic bombs. She also made cloning, gene mapping, and vitro fertilization possible. She was a real gem of humanity and without her, medical research wouldn't be where it is today. (Note: This summary is wholly written and published by Abbey Beathan. It is not affiliated with the original author in any way) But I tell you one thing, I don't want to be immortal if it mean living forever, cause then everybody else just die and get old in front of you while you stay the same, and that's just sad. - Rebecca Skloot Despite being vital for the human kind, she remains unknown by many and buried in an unmarked grave. Rebecca Skloot made it her priority to get the word out about this amazing woman and how she helped everyone even though nobody lent her a hand. *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* portrays the story of this brave woman and the vile medical industry that gained billions by selling human biological materials without giving her a single dime. Skloot uncovers the unabridged story of Henrietta after 10 years of research. Are you ready to learn about her amazing achievements and the dark side of medicine? P.S. *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* is an extraordinary book that uncovers a story about a woman we should all know. P.P.S. It was Albert Einstein who famously said that once you stop learning, you start dying. It was Bill Gates who said that he would want the ability to read faster if he could only have one superpower in this world. Abbey Beathan's mission is to bring across amazing golden nuggets in amazing books through our summaries. Our vision is to make reading non-fiction fun, dynamic and captivating. Ready To Be A Part Of Our Vision & Mission?

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the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Chasing My Cure David Fajgenbaum, 2019-09-10 LOS ANGELES TIMES AND PUBLISHERS WEEKLY BESTSELLER • The powerful memoir of a young doctor and former college athlete diagnosed with a rare disease who spearheaded the search for a cure—and became a champion for a new approach to medical research. “A wonderful and moving chronicle of a doctor’s relentless pursuit, this book serves both patients and physicians in demystifying the science that lies behind medicine.”—Siddhartha Mukherjee, New York Times bestselling author of *The Emperor of All Maladies* and *The Gene* David Fajgenbaum, a former Georgetown quarterback, was nicknamed the Beast in medical school, where he was also known for his unmatched mental stamina. But things changed dramatically when he began suffering from inexplicable fatigue. In a matter of weeks, his organs were failing and he was read his last rites. Doctors were baffled by his condition, which they had yet to even diagnose. Floating in and out of consciousness, Fajgenbaum prayed for a second chance, the equivalent of a dramatic play to second the game into overtime. Miraculously, Fajgenbaum survived—only to endure repeated near-death relapses from what would eventually be identified as a form of Castleman disease, an extremely deadly and rare condition that acts like a cross between cancer and an autoimmune disorder. When he relapsed while on the only drug in development and realized that the medical community was unlikely to make progress in time to save his life, Fajgenbaum turned his desperate hope for a cure into concrete action: Between hospitalizations he studied his own charts and tested his own blood samples, looking for clues that could unlock a new treatment. With the help of family, friends, and mentors, he also reached out to other Castleman disease patients and physicians, and eventually came up with an ambitious plan to crowdsource the most promising research questions and recruit world-class researchers to tackle them. Instead of waiting for the scientific stars to align, he would attempt to align them himself. More than five years later and now married to his college sweetheart, Fajgenbaum has seen his hard work pay off: A treatment he identified has induced a tentative remission and his novel approach to collaborative scientific inquiry has become a blueprint for advancing rare disease research. His incredible story demonstrates the potency of hope, and what can happen when the forces of determination, love, family, faith, and serendipity collide. Praise for *Chasing My Cure* “A page-turning chronicle of living, nearly dying, and discovering what it really means to be invincible in hope.”—Angela Duckworth, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Grit* “[A] remarkable memoir . . . Fajgenbaum writes lucidly and movingly . . . Fajgenbaum’s stirring account of his illness will inspire readers.”—Publishers Weekly

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Gödel, Escher, Bach Douglas R. Hofstadter, 2000 'What is a self and how can a self come out of inanimate matter?' This is the riddle that drove Douglas Hofstadter to write this extraordinary book. In order to impart his original and personal view on the core mystery of human existence - our intangible sensation of 'I'-ness - Hofstadter defines the playful yet seemingly paradoxical notion of 'strange loop', and explicates this idea using analogies from many disciplines.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: The Secret Body Daniel M. Davis, 2021-08-24 One of our most lauded scientist-writers shows how astonishing breakthroughs in medical science are changing previously immutable aspects of humanity. Welcome to a revolution in the science of human health. This book takes us to the frontier of medical research and reveals stunning recent advances that are changing our understanding of how human body works, how we

combat and prevent disease and how we understand what it means to be human. We see how super-resolution nano-scopes are revealing hitherto hidden operations within our cells and opening up new new ways of manipulating the immune system; how human embryos can now be preserved alive long enough to see how genetic abnormalities can be corrected during the early stages of foetal development; how light is being used to excite pathways in the brain allowing us to understand and manipulate thoughts and feelings; how our rapidly increasing understanding of the microbiome is radically changing every aspect of human biology. These and many more astonishing discoveries are related as gripping dramas of discovery by an award-winning scientist at the very forefront of this adventure--Publisher's description.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Rin Tin Tin Susan Orlean, 2012-10-09 One of the most acclaimed nonfiction books of 2011, Susan Orlean's New York Times bestseller *Rin Tin Tin* is an unforgettable book about the mutual devotion between one man and one dog (The Wall Street Journal). He believed the dog was immortal. So begins Susan Orlean's sweeping, powerfully moving account of Rin Tin Tin's journey from abandoned puppy to movie star and international icon. Spanning almost one hundred years of history, from the dog's improbable discovery on a battlefield in 1918 to his tumultuous rise through Hollywood and beyond, *Rin Tin Tin* is a love story about the mutual devotion between one man and one dog (The Wall Street Journal) that is also a quintessentially American story of reinvention, a captivating exploration of our spiritual bond with animals, and a stirring meditation on mortality and immortality.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Lakewood Megan Giddings, 2020-03-24 NPR Book of the Year 2020 Electric Literature: One of 55 Books by Women and Nonbinary Writers of Color to Read in 2020 | Lit Hub & The Millions: Most Anticipated Books of 2020 | Ms. Magazine: Anticipated 2020 Feminist Books | Refinery29: Books by Black Women We are Looking Forward To Reading | One of The Millions' Most Anticipated Reads of 2020 | Amazon Book of the Month Pick | Audible Editor's Pick | Essence's Pick| Glamour's Must Read | Ms. Magazine's Anticipated Read of 2020 A startling debut about class and race, *Lakewood* evokes a terrifying world of medical experimentation—part *The Handmaid's Tale*, part *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. When Lena Johnson's beloved grandmother dies, and the full extent of the family debt is revealed, the black millennial drops out of college to support her family and takes a job in the mysterious and remote town of Lakewood, Michigan. On paper, her new job is too good to be true. High paying. No out of pocket medical expenses. A free place to live. All Lena has to do is participate in a secret program—and lie to her friends and family about the research being done in Lakewood. An eye drop that makes brown eyes blue, a medication that could be a cure for dementia, golden pills promised to make all bad thoughts go away. The discoveries made in Lakewood, Lena is told, will change the world—but the consequences for the subjects involved could be devastating. As the truths of the program reveal themselves, Lena learns how much she's willing to sacrifice for the sake of her family. Provocative and thrilling, *Lakewood* is a breathtaking novel that takes an unflinching look at the moral dilemmas many working-class families face, and the horror that has been forced on black bodies in the name of science.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Never Let Me Go Sachin Garg, 2012

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *Summary of Rebecca Skloot's The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* Everest Media,, 2022-03-19T22:59:00Z Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 On January 29, 1951, David Lacks sat behind the wheel of his old Buick, watching the rain fall. He was parked under a towering oak tree outside Johns Hopkins Hospital with three of his children—two still in diapers—waiting for their mother, Henrietta. She had been telling her closest friends something was wrong with her sex life, but she still said no when she was pregnant with Joe, her fifth child. #2 Henrietta was diagnosed with a tumor on her cervix, but when she went to the hospital, she was treated for syphilis. She had six children with her husband, and she was never able to travel. She was asymptomatic neuro syphilitic, and her husband had no liking for sexual intercourse. #3 Henrietta was a prime example of how little black patients knew about their health. She had never heard of cervical cancer, and

when she went to the hospital, she was sent home with a diagnosis of no abnormality of the cervix. Three months later, she had a full-blown tumor. #4 Henrietta Lacks was a woman whose cells were taken and sold by the thousands without her consent. She was born in 1920 in Virginia, and her cells were taken and sold by the thousands without her consent.

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the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: *Shen of the Sea* Arthur Bowie Chrisman, 1925 Newbery Awards.

the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: Summary of The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot Abbey Beathan, 2019-06-10 The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot - Book Summary - Abbey Beathan (Disclaimer: This is NOT the original book.) The story of a poor southern tobacco farmer who became one of the most important assets in medical research. Henrietta Lacks was a woman who was born to make a difference. Her cells were completely unique, they had the ability to proliferate indefinitely. She was the bearer of the first immortal human cells grown in culture, which are still alive even though she passed away sixty years ago. Henrietta Lacks served a key role for the development of polio vaccine, cancer research and even studies related to atomic bombs. She also made cloning, gene mapping, and vitro fertilization possible. She was a real gem of humanity and without her, medical research wouldn't be where it is today. (Note: This summary is wholly written and published by Abbey Beathan. It is not affiliated with the original author in any way) But I tell you one thing, I don't want to be immortal if it mean living forever, cause then everybody else just die and get old in front of you while you stay the same, and that's just sad. - Rebecca Skloot Despite being vital for the human kind, she remains unknown by many and buried in an unmarked grave. Rebecca Skloot made it her priority to get the word out about this amazing woman and how she helped everyone even though nobody lent her a hand. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks portrays the story of this brave woman and the vile medical industry that gained billions by selling human biological materials without giving her a single dime. Skloot uncovers the unabridged story of Henrietta after 10 years of research. Are you ready to learn about her amazing achievements and the dark side of medicine? P.S. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks is an extraordinary book that uncovers a story about a woman we should all know. P.P.S. It was Albert Einstein who famously said that once you stop learning, you start dying. It was Bill Gates who said that he would want the ability to read faster if he could only have one superpower in this world. Abbey Beathan's mission is to bring across amazing golden nuggets in amazing books through our summaries. Our vision is to make reading non-fiction fun, dynamic and captivating. Ready To Be A Part Of Our Vision & Mission? Scroll Up Now and Click on the Buy now with 1-Click Button to Get Your Copy. Why Abbey Beathan's Summaries? How Can Abbey Beathan Serve You? Amazing Refresher if you've read the original book before Priceless Checklist in case you missed out any crucial lessons/details Perfect Choice if you're interested in the original book but never read it before Disclaimer Once Again: This book is meant for a great companionship of the original book or to simply get the gist of the original book. One of the greatest and most powerful gift in life is the gift of knowledge. The way of success is the way of continuous pursuit of knowledge - Abbey Beathan

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the immortal life of henrietta lacks summary: **Cues** Vanessa Van Edwards, 2022-03-01 Wall Street Journal bestseller! For anyone who wants to be heard at work, earn that overdue promotion, or win more clients, deals, and projects, the bestselling author of *Captivate*, Vanessa Van Edwards, shares her advanced guide to improving professional relationships through the power of cues. What makes someone charismatic? Why do some captivate a room, while others have trouble managing a small meeting? What makes some ideas spread, while other good ones fall by the wayside? If you have ever been interrupted in meetings, overlooked for career opportunities or had your ideas ignored, your cues may be the problem – and the solution. Cues – the tiny signals we send to others 24/7 through our body language, facial expressions, word choice, and vocal inflection – have a massive impact on how we, and our ideas, come across. Our cues can either enhance our message or undermine it. In this entertaining and accessible guide to the hidden language of cues, Vanessa Van Edwards teaches you how to convey power, trust, leadership, likeability, and charisma in every interaction. You'll learn: • Which body language cues assert, "I'm a leader, and here's why you should join me." • Which vocal cues make you sound more confident • Which verbal cues to use in your résumé, branding, and emails to increase trust (and generate excitement about interacting with you.) • Which visual cues you are sending in your profile pictures, clothing, and professional brand. Whether you're pitching an investment, negotiating a job offer, or having a tough conversation with a colleague, cues can help you improve your relationships, express empathy, and create meaningful connections with lasting impact. This is an indispensable guide for entrepreneurs, team leaders, young professionals, and anyone who wants to be more influential.

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