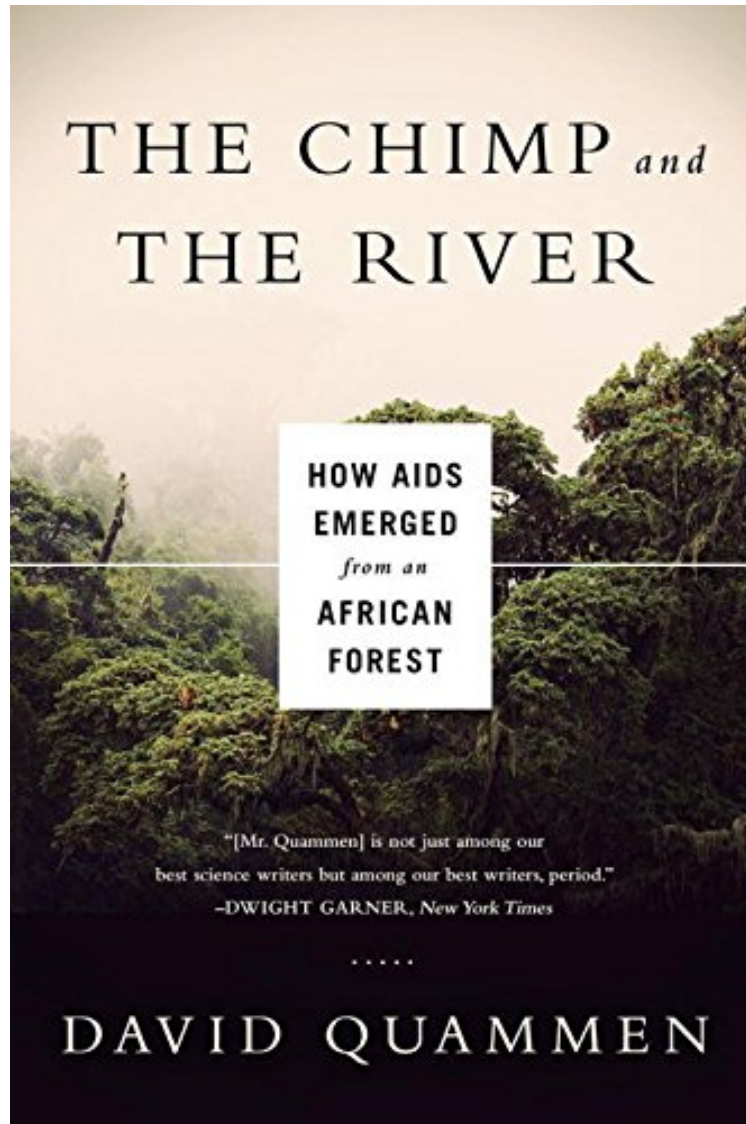


(Library ebook) The Chimp and the River: How AIDS Emerged from an African Forest

The Chimp and the River: How AIDS Emerged from an African Forest

David Quammen

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David Quammen : The Chimp and the River: How AIDS Emerged from an African Forest before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Chimp and the River: How AIDS Emerged from an African Forest:

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Mind blowing! By iluvteeth Read this book in two days!

Absolutely fascinating! I had read Edward Hoopers book "The River: A Journey to the Source of HIV and AIDS" which gives account to the possible origins of HIV to the polio vaccine campaign conducted in Africa, but David Quammen's book investigates further. I don't want to spoil this book, but I would recommend this book to anyone who is interested with the origins of HIV and how it has become one of the biggest pandemics known to man. Wonderful book!³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. It isn't patient zero, it's animal zero...By K. L SadlerIt's been a while since I read a book on AIDS. I saw this book when I was getting other books on infectious disease, and put it aside for future reading. I had read "And the Band Played On" about 20 years ago, when I started working in a Lab on HIV. I knew so much had been found out concerning AIDS and where it came from. But much of this book was a surprise to me. I always felt that we didn't know the whole story about when AIDS actually started to infect the human race. The research that has been done in monkeys and apes, to determine the relationship between SIV which is simian immunodeficiency virus and HIV. Quammen provides a lot of background into what had previously been known and talked about. When I teach microbiology to my students I want to impress upon them the importance of knowing where these diseases come from. So many of the emerging diseases today are zoonoses, meaning they come from animals. Human invasion into habitats that used to rarely be seen by humans is introducing new viruses that some animals could live with, and others that were killers, no matter what the species. Quammen does a good job with the science. He obviously has a lot of practice in both the research and the writing. This book was incredibly interesting and definitely filled in gaps in my knowledge. I would recommend that readers be a bit familiar with AIDS before tackling this book. It assumes that the readers have a background in AIDS.⁴ of 4 people found the following review helpful. Glossy overview of the history of HIVBy J. EastonQuick read about the history of HIV. I didn't quite realize before purchasing (although I think it's clear, I just didn't pay attention) that this is taken from another of his books. He references that a few times in this book, and glosses over some details that I think must be explained in further detail in the larger work. I would have liked to see more discussion of some of the biology, as he does often skip the details of how exactly how the microbiologists have derived their findings. Also, be warned that a good chunk of the middle of the book is pure speculation about the Cut Hunter hypothesis and how the virus may have spread to other humans from the Cut Hunter. That was a bit disappointing from a science writer. If you are looking for an easy to read introduction into how scientists trace zoonotic diseases, this will be a great book for you! If you want something more in-depth, I would suggest reading Spillover or Pepin's more in-depth book.

In this "frightening and fascinating masterpiece" (Walter Isaacson), David Quammen explores the true origins of HIV/AIDS. The real story of AIDS shows it originated with a virus in a chimpanzee, jumped to one human, and then infected more than 60 million people is very different from what most of us think we know. Recent research has revealed dark surprises and yielded a radically new scenario of how AIDS began and spread. Excerpted and adapted from the book Spillover, with a new introduction by the author, Quammen's hair-raising investigation tracks the virus from chimp populations in the jungles of southeastern Cameroon to laboratories across the globe, as he unravels the mysteries of when, where, and under what circumstances such a consequential "spillover" can happen. An audacious search for answers amid more than a century of data, The Chimp and the River tells the haunting tale of one of the most devastating pandemics of our time.

Compelling[an] utterly gripping story. - Abigail Zuger, The New York Times To call David Quammen one of our greatest science writers is to belittle him. He is one of our greatest writers, period. - Hampton Sides, best-selling narrative historian and editor at large at Outside magazine [An] intense study of the origins of AIDS. With Sherlockian verve Quammen's portrait of the real Patient Zero is a masterful summing-up of the evidence. - Nathan Wolfe, Nature About the Author David Quammen is the author of The Song of the Dodo, among other books. He has been honored by the American Academy of Arts and Letters and is the recipient of a John Burroughs Medal and the National Magazine Award. He lives in Bozeman, Montana.