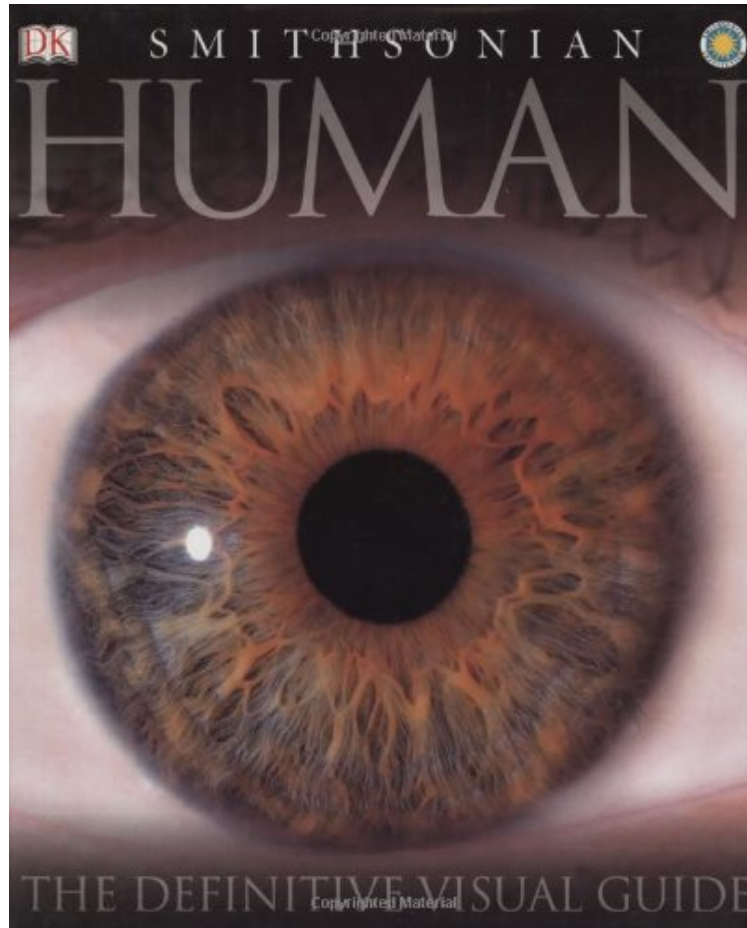


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## Human (Dk Smithsonian Institution)

*Robert Winston*

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From Publishers Weekly One of the defining characteristics of humanity is our profound curiosity about ourselves and others like us, and this lush book does an exquisite job of satisfying that curiosity. The volume strikes a fine balance between comprehensiveness and readability. Everywhere the eye falls sharp images, informative captions and easily digestible chunks of information capture the readers attention. Color-coded boxes containing facts, historical details, profiles and more combine with the general layout to ensure that there is always one more thing for the reader to investigate, making this book hard to put down (though its heft makes it hard to hold up). The striking cover image of a massive eye gives readers the impression that theyre being examined in extreme detail by the book itself, a feeling that is perpetuated within. The book addresses seven overarching aspects of mankind: origins, body, mind, life cycle, society, culture and peoples. In these sections, readers discover why their palms sweat when theyre nervous, how tongue-rolling can explain genetics, what the connection between language and thought is, why in-laws are never a problem in Papua New Guinea, how different economic systems work, what insult is the earliest we learn and where in the world nearly man-sized stones are used as money. The varied arrangement of the images gives this volume less of an encyclopedic feel than the previous book in DKs Smithsonian series (Animal), and the visuals are often compelling. Unlike many occasionally-flipped-through coffee table books, this impressive volume is sure to become a much-used household reference. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. About the Author Acclaimed scientist and host of several BBC's programs, including The Human Body and Superhuman series, Robert Winston is well known for his charisma and pioneering work with test-tube babies. Don E. Wilson is Senior Scientist at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution and the author of over 180 scientific publications.