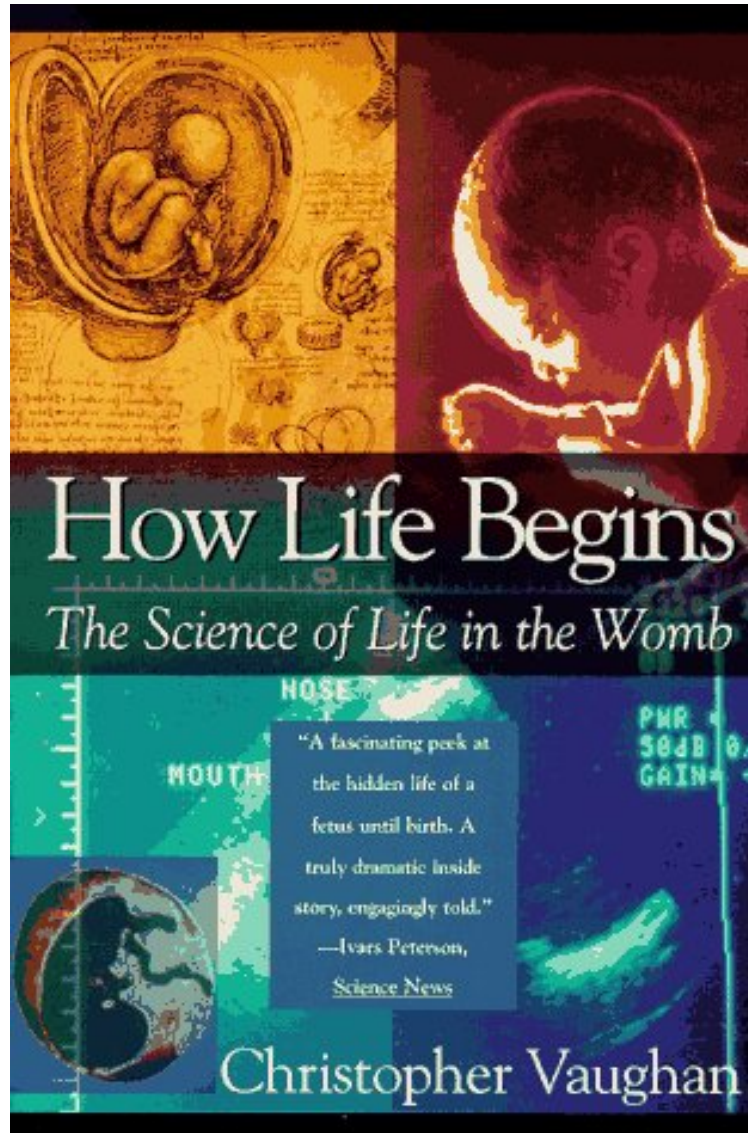


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How Life Begins

Christopher Vaughan

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Christopher Vaughan : How Life Begins before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How Life Begins:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A good book that tells you scientific facts , written in a beautiful wayBy victor ayoubAgain i read this book , from the library three years ago. I am studying the complexity of gender, how we identify theembryo at a certain time in the womb. And though this book is about the very basic level , it was all i needed as a point of departure for my own follow up study. It was a real good book when i read it three years ago

and i decided to have a copy of it .0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. but I've yet to find another book like this oneBy Tamra MyersThis is a lovely and highly readable book about the science of human embryonic development. It's nearly twenty years old now, so there is probably more up-to-date science, but I've yet to find another book like this one. Highly recommended if you or someone you love is having a baby.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting content but not a text book.By Lorraine MercerHighly informative in some parts but a bit tedious in others. Overall this book left me with memorable details that I would pass on in conversation as facts that amazed me, so, I would say it had achieved it's objective.

From the moment of fertilization until the day of birth, the extraordinary life of a fetus is chronicled in this awe-inspiring volume drawn from the latest in pre-natal research. *How Life Begins*, taking advantage of the relatively recent advent of ultrasound technology and other imaging techniques, offers a month-by-month guide to what a developing baby is seeing, hearing, dreaming about, and how it is accomplishing the miracle of preparing to be human. Readers will discover:How a fetus's eye movements work to "boot up" the computer that is its brainHow the hands and feet commit programmed suicide to create fingers and What role genetics plays in determining an infant's sexual identity and personalityHow the baby becomes the choreographer of the mother's labor, and the director of his or her own birthInterviews with leading researchers combine with truly remarkable photography to make *How Life Begins* an unforgettable journey marking the passage from single cell to bright-eyed baby.

From Publishers WeeklyThe human infant can hear, feel and see before it leaves the womb, and the fetus even seems to have a sense of taste. Around day 26 after conception, the embryo initiates dramatic progress in the process of forming a face. By the end of the third month, the fetus is moving vigorously, even though the mother can't feel the movement. In a crystal-clear synthesis emphasizing the last two decades of research, this captivating primer reenacts an incredible journey we all have taken but forgotten?the first nine months of life inside the womb. Vaughan, a biomedical editor at Cambridge University Press, explains how the fetus "practically commandeers the mother's body," tailoring her responses to promote energy storage and manipulating her immune system to override the forces that the body usually launches against invaders. Along the way he discusses genetic influences on personality, sudden infant death syndrome, causes of infertility, current fertilization techniques and the newborn's adjustment to the outer world. An informative guide for expectant parents and the scientifically curious. Illustrations. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.From BooklistVaughan presents human growth and development in clear and attractive prose, describing what is known, pointing out the surprising amount that is still unknown, and effectively using analogies to clarify events and subject material. His practicality is evident from the beginning, when he cuts through the traditional reckoning of the age of embryo and fetus to put such measurements on a logical basis. Elsewhere, he asks why a mother does not expel fetus and placenta as foreign objects, then not only spells out what is known to answer this major question, but also shows how information gained from studies related to the question may help in controlling cancer. While describing the gradual growth of embryo and fetus, he tangentially pursues such related topics as the influence of genes beyond actual birth. Finally, one of the most interesting aspects of this engaging book is its attention to intrawomb practice of various procedures preparatory for the shock of birth. William Beatty The formation and physiology of life in the womb is here revealed in a treatise which examines the development of the child and its interactions with the mother during major developmental periods. Most childbirth titles are written with would-be parents in mind: the scientific nature of this study provides an embryo-oriented approach which focuses on elements of formation and unusual facts surrounding a foetus's evolution from cells to full human. -- Midwest Book