

Essays Of Being American Lives - A Deep Dive Into the American Experience

Cloning

Kate SIG

What comes to mind when you hear the word "cloning"? Identical, expensive, exclusive, more of something. Ever since Dolly the sheep, interest in cloning has increased in great numbers. Interest didn't just come from researchers and scientists; it came from the general public. And then came the question everyone was asking. "What can we do with this?" Simply the idea of cloning posed opportunity, yet in people it instills fear and uncertainty. We can barely take care of our current population right now. How do we care for more? Control the crime and risks to follow? You can look at it from every angle, and the cons of cloning, will always outweigh the pros.

The basic definition of cloning is "a group of organisms or cells produced from one ancestor or stock, to which they are genetically identical." Cloning results in two of the same thing, identical in every way. Both genetically and physically. In some ways it seems like the greatest thing in the world. A perfect twin. Someone just like you. Someone who knows you every which way, with whom you can share every secret and fear. And then it goes farther. There's more than just one. There's two, three, then fifty, one-hundred, one million. All identical. All the same. Identical doesn't just mean physically. It means that every single clone, is made of the genetic code, making them just as vulnerable to the same things as the original. Susceptible to the same diseases, the same viruses. One pathogen to wipe out half a nation. The flaws don't only include disease. When everyone is identical, it means a lack of diversity, the very diversity that makes us "human". An inability to adapt to our surroundings, to our environment, poses a risk just as great.

Those aren't the only flaws of cloning. What are the limits, when having someone who looks just like you, talks like you, walks like you, thinks like you, and in every which way, in truth, *is* you? There are no limits. Cameras would be *completely* and *utterly* useless. How do you, in truth, convict someone who has committed a crime, based solely on a camera, or even an eyewitness, for that matter? The inability to tell a clone from another, poses a significant risk. Murderers would walk free, money would be stolen, and innocent men and women would face the inside of a jail cell. There are those, who go so far as to say, "It can be controlled. We can restrict access." Access to guns was restricted. Even just the cloning of organs, and someone would find a way to produce malpractice. It is the basis of human nature.

Disease is bad. Yet disease, and crime aren't the worst of it. The worst of it is ourselves. Who decides what can, and what cannot be cloned? Who decides what is for the better, and what crosses *that* line? Emotional risks are the tip of it. How would you feel, watching yourself, grow up from child to young adult to senior? How would you feel, if you saw the dead? Walking, talking, living, days after their own funeral? If they *saw* their own funeral? What does it mean to teenagers attempting to establish their own identity, to someone in a mid-life crisis? To a war veteran, who wants his leg back? Who decides? How do we decide where to draw the line between ethical and moral principles, and the sin of all sins? Where do we draw the line between being human, and becoming just another man-made *thing*, no longer unique in our own individuality? To have the power of cloning at free use, is to undermine the value of human life, to say that the

America is a nation built upon the dreams and aspirations of millions of individuals seeking freedom, opportunity, and self-expression. It is a land where people from diverse backgrounds come together to create a unique tapestry of experiences, beliefs, and values. The "Essays Of Being American Lives" series

encapsulates this multifaceted melting pot, shedding light on various aspects of the American experience through personal narratives that touch the heart, challenge preconceptions, and inspire the reader to delve deeper into their own understanding of what it truly means to be American. Join us on this enlightening journey as we explore these compelling essays that encapsulate the essence of the American dream like never before.

The American Dream: A Central Theme

At the core of the American experience lies the concept of the American dream – the belief that anyone, regardless of their social and economic background, can achieve success through hard work, determination, and perseverance. The "Essays Of Being American Lives" series offers a platform for individuals from all walks of life to share their unique perspectives on this dream, providing a holistic understanding of its complexities and the various challenges encountered along the way. From heartwarming stories of immigrants building new lives to reflections on the impact of socioeconomic factors on achieving the American dream, these essays provide a thought-provoking exploration of an idea that defines the American ethos.



This Fish Is Fowl: Essays of Being (American Lives) by John Jung (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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| Screen Reader | : Supported |
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Celebrating Diversity

America is a nation like no other when it comes to embracing cultural diversity. The "Essays Of Being American Lives" series celebrates this diversity by featuring essays from individuals of different racial, ethnic, religious, and national backgrounds. Each essay serves as a window into a distinct experience, shining a light on the challenges faced and the triumphs achieved by individuals who have contributed to the rich tapestry of American society. Through their stories, we gain a deeper appreciation for the power of diversity in shaping our collective American identity and gain insight into the struggles and accomplishments that unite us all.

Challenging Preconceptions

In a world filled with stereotypes and preconceived notions, the "Essays Of Being American Lives" series strives to challenge these narratives by presenting personal stories that defy expectations and reveal the complexity of individual experiences. These essays encourage readers to question their assumptions about what it means to be American and to engage in meaningful conversations about the diverse perspectives that make up our society. Through candid and honest narratives, the authors navigate topics such as race, gender, sexuality, and socioeconomic status, providing a platform for dialogue that encourages empathy, understanding, and growth.

The "Essays Of Being American Lives" series presents a unique opportunity to explore the American experience through the eyes of those who have lived it. From heartwarming tales of triumph to thought-provoking reflections on identity and belonging, these essays offer a rich and diverse portrayal of what it means to

be American. As you immerse yourself in the stories shared in this series, allow them to challenge your perceptions, spark meaningful conversations, and inspire you to embrace the vastness of our collective American identity. Join us as we embark on this unforgettable journey of self-discovery, empathy, and shared humanity.



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In *This Fish Is Fowl* Xu Xi offers the transnational and feminist perspective of a contemporary “glocalized” American life. Xu’s quirky, darkly comic, and obsessively personal essays emerge from her diverse professional career as a writer, business executive, entrepreneur, and educator. From her origins in Hong Kong as an Indonesian of Chinese descent to her U.S. citizenship and multiple countries of residence, she writes her way around the globe.

Caring for her mother with Alzheimer’s in Hong Kong becomes the rhythmic accompaniment to an enforced, long-term, long-distance relationship with her partner and home in New York. In between Xu reflects on all her selves, which are defined by those myriad monikers of existence. As an author who began life

as a novelist and fiction writer, she also considers the nature of genre, which snakes its way through these essays. In her linguistic trip across the comic tragedy that is globalism, she wonders about the mystery of humanity and the future of our world at this complicated and precarious moment in human existence.

This *Fish Is Fowl* is a twenty-first-century blend of the essayist traditions of both West and East. Xu's acerbic, deft prose shows her to be a descendant of both Michel de Montaigne and Lu Xun, with influences from stepparent Jonathan Swift.



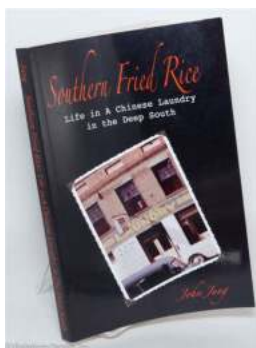
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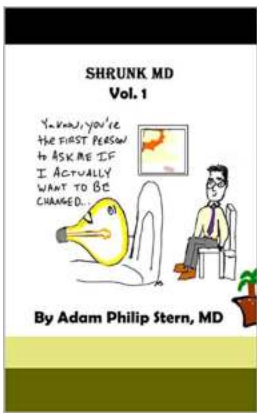
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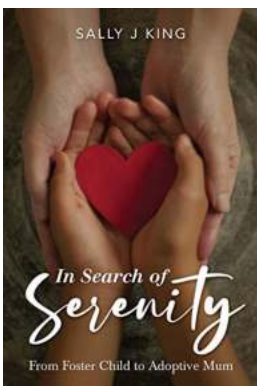
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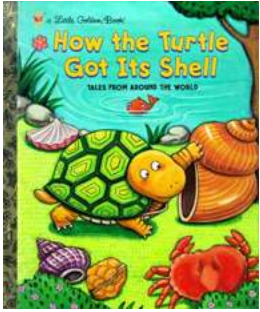
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