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"*This is a delightful book!* Our Animal Connection *is a must-read for everyone who has ever wondered how humans are connected to the rest of animal life on the planet. It's written with the rigor of logic that you would expect from two well-trained and highly credentialled scientists, but the prose is easy to read for even nonscientists. Every chapter could stand alone as an interesting and informative article, from the inspiring foreword by Huanming Yang through the fascinating review of metrics in the appendix. Get this book!*"

Prof. David Mozley
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Prof. Lars Bolund
BGI-Qingdao, China | Aarhus University, Denmark

This book covers the many ways humans benefit from interactions with other living species. By studying animals of all kinds and sizes, from microbial organisms to elephants and whales, we can learn about their adaptations to extreme conditions on the planet Earth, about the evolutionary development of specialized capabilities, and about their ways to defend themselves against predators and diseases. The authors discuss the strengths and weaknesses of *Homo sapiens*, and how the study of animals can make us stronger and healthier. To deepen our knowledge of genetics, molecular and cell biology, physiology and medicine, we need to study model organisms. To cure human disease, we can learn from animals how they have evolved ways to protect themselves. To improve human performance, we can study the animal kingdom's top performers and learn from their successes. Considering these important pointers, the authors review genetic engineering techniques that can translate our existing and future animal connections into benefits for human health and performance.

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