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## Book review of "Of Flies, Mice, and Men: On the Revolution in Molecular Biology, by One of the Scientists Who Helped Make It" by François Jacob

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Jacob, Francois. *Of Flies, Mice, & Men: On the Revolution in Molecular Biology, by One of the Scientists Who Helped Make It*. Harvard Univ. Jan. 1999. c.192p. ISBN 0-674-63111-0. \$24. SCI

Jacob (The Statue Within, LJ 3/15/88), the 1965 Nobel laureate in medicine, has written a book of interest to scientists and nonscientists alike. He discusses the nature of scientific research and discovery and the need for both scientists and the public to exercise objectivity and precision when discussing the limits, applications, and consequences of biological (and particularly genetic) research. This is not a book for readers who prefer straightforward and sequential narratives. Jacob's text coils and unwinds much like a replicating molecule of DNA, intertwining musings on such disparate topics as childhood friendships, film, and classical mythology with reflections on the history, politics, and practice of science. The result is smoothly flowing, elegant, and intriguing. Recommended for academic and public libraries.--Nancy Curtis, Univ. of Maine Lib., Orono

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