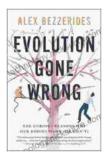
# The Curious Reasons Why Our Bodies Work or Don't

From the moment we're born, we're exposed to a constant barrage of environmental factors that can affect our health. Some of these factors, like diet and exercise, we have control over. Others, like pollution and chemicals in our food, we don't.

All of these factors can play a role in how our bodies function. Some can help us stay healthy and strong, while others can make us more susceptible to disease.

Here are some of the most curious reasons why our bodies work or don't:



### Evolution Gone Wrong: The Curious Reasons Why Our Bodies Work (Or Don't) by Alex Bezzerides

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 Our genes play a role in our health. We inherit our genes from our parents, and they can influence everything from our height to our weight to our risk of developing certain diseases. Some genes can help us stay healthy, while others can make us more susceptible to disease.

- Our environment also plays a role in our health. The air we breathe, the water we drink, and the food we eat can all affect our health. Exposure to pollution, chemicals, and other environmental toxins can increase our risk of developing certain diseases.
- Our diet can also affect our health. Eating a healthy diet that is rich in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains can help us stay healthy and strong. Eating a diet that is high in processed foods, sugary drinks, and saturated fat can increase our risk of developing certain diseases.
- Our exercise habits can also affect our health. Regular exercise can help us stay healthy and strong. It can improve our cardiovascular health, our muscle strength, and our flexibility. It can also help us reduce our risk of developing certain diseases.
- Our sleep habits can also affect our health. Getting enough sleep is essential for our physical and mental health. When we don't get enough sleep, we can experience a variety of problems, including fatigue, difficulty concentrating, and impaired judgment.

All of these factors can play a role in how our bodies function. By understanding how these factors affect our health, we can make choices that help us stay healthy and strong.

#### Here are some specific examples of how our bodies work or don't:

 Our immune system helps us fight off infection. When we're exposed to a virus or bacteria, our immune system kicks into action to protect us. It produces antibodies that bind to the virus or bacteria and prevent them from infecting our cells.

- Our digestive system helps us break down food and absorb nutrients. When we eat, our digestive system breaks down the food into smaller molecules that can be absorbed into our bloodstream. These nutrients are then used to build and repair our tissues and organs.
- Our respiratory system helps us breathe. When we inhale, our lungs fill with air. The oxygen in the air is absorbed into our bloodstream, while the carbon dioxide in our bloodstream is expelled.
- Our circulatory system helps us transport blood throughout our body. Our heart pumps blood through our arteries and veins, delivering oxygen and nutrients to our cells and carrying away waste products.
- Our nervous system helps us control our body movements and thoughts. Our brain sends signals to our muscles, telling them to move. It also receives signals from our senses, telling us what's going on around us.

All of these systems work together to keep us healthy and functioning properly. When one system is not working properly, it can affect the other systems. For example, if our immune system is not working properly, we may be more susceptible to infection. If our digestive system is not working properly, we may not be able to absorb the nutrients we need to stay healthy. By understanding how our bodies work, we can take steps to keep them healthy and functioning properly. We can eat a healthy diet, get regular exercise, and get enough sleep. We can also avoid exposure to harmful environmental toxins. By making these choices, we can help our bodies stay healthy and strong for years to come.

Additional Resources

- The National Institutes of Health
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- The World Health Organization
- WebMD
- Mayo Clinic

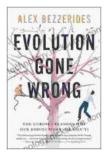
#### \*\*Relevant

Our bodies are amazing machines that are constantly working to keep us alive and healthy. Sometimes, our bodies work perfectly. Other times, they don't. There are many reasons why our bodies work or don't, including our genes, our environment, our diet, our exercise habits, and our sleep habits. By understanding how these factors affect our health, we can make choices that help us stay healthy and strong.

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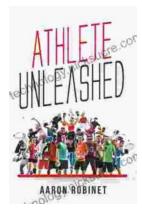
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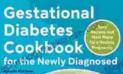
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