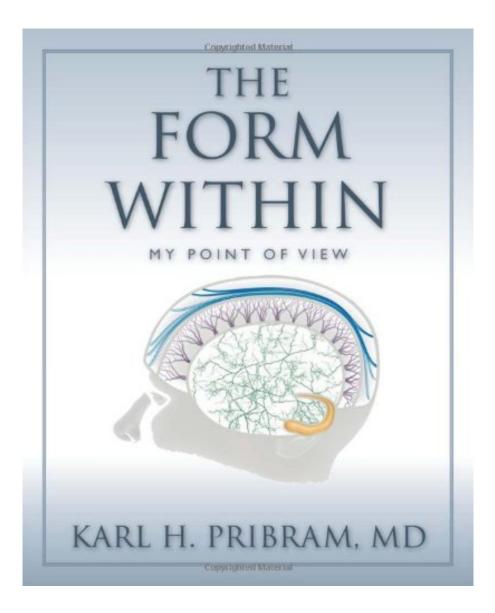


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THE FORM WITHIN is the fascinating story of two hundred years of pioneering brain research, told from the unique perspective of the only brain scientist who has been, and still remains, an active participant in that story throughout the past seventy years: Karl H. Pribram.

In THE FORM WITHIN, Dr. Pribram takes us on a compelling journey from the dawn of our collective "recorded perceptions" in cave paintings to our greatest achievements as a species. He explains the important task of mapping the brain; the discovery of our holographic processing of memory and perception; and the detailed research that has created our understanding of self-organizing biological systems.

Along the way, Pribram shares the intimate interactions he has had with luminaries of twentieth-century science, including David Bohm, Francis Crick, John Eccles, Dennis Gabor, Hubel and Wiesel, Wolfgang Kohler, Karl Lashley, Aleksandr Romanovitch Luria, Ilya Prigogine, B. F. Skinner, Eugene Sokolov, and many others.

But this riveting glimpse into our past is only a part of the story. Pribram also provides us with insightful breakthroughs into a science of the future, and points the way to where our understanding of the brain is headed.

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The father of neuropsychology strikes back in the most enjoyable manner.

By Heavy Theta

Karl Pribram views brain and consciousness differently then most of his celebrated colleagues and successful students. While the world of neuroscience toils at a very limited connectionist model, where thought and perception is reduced to the hardwiring of neuron upon neuron, Pribram recognizes the possibilities of a brain that functions at a level of bio-physics that has only recently come within the tentative grasp of science's brightest and most adventurist explorers.

The wondrous thing with this book is how well it is written, so that this challenging view is not just readily comprehended by the motivated reader, but is utterly convincing. And having toiled through some of Dr. Pribram's very detailed and complex texts and papers, I am fairly stunned at just how entertaining and enjoyable this book is. It's just plain readable. And in the process one not only attains an important viewpoint, but a thorough history of the field. Bravo Karl, this is a stunning achievement.

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful.

A Superb Book!

By Subhash Kak

It is a marvelous book, full of wonderful insights and personal anecdotes, that I recommend most strongly. The book is the story of Karl Pribram's quest to know the secrets of brain and mind. As a pioneer, who has made some of the most important contributions to the field, it is great to know of the context in which these discoveries were made. The book has charming details on other scientists, many of them are equally famous

names in the field. There are gems of stories such as how he lost part of his finger when his hand was slammed down by the famous chimpanzee Washoe at the University of Oklahoma. The encounters with other scientists include those with Bekesy, Lashley, Luria, Koestler, Prigogine, Skinner, Sokolov, and many others.

Pribram is not just a great raconteur; his stories have a deeper theme related to the "form within". He is also speaking of issues that are of relevance to the scientist by reviewing current understanding and its limitations and making deep points about what directions are likely to be fruitful.

The book is beautifully produced.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

The Complete Tale of Neuroscience, as told by a legend.

By HoyaSaxa

Dr. Karl Pribram is a legend in the true sense of the word - having been a part of so much of the developments in psychology and neuroscience in the last century. Dr. Pribam writes in a very accessible manner, making even the most complex concepts understandable and interesting. Throughout his discussion of the science, Pribram weaves in fascinating stories and anecdotes from his past - of personal experiences with other science "greats" such as B.F. Skinner and George Miller. There are even laugh-out-loud moments of true hilarity.

The book is a once in a lifetime creation, written by a once in a lifetime perspective. If you have even the slightest interest in Neuroscience, medicine, or psychology, I cannot recommend this book enough - I expect it to be a classic for years to come!

(The book is also a seriously good value, beautifully produced and priced inexpensively.)

Don't hesitate to delve into this one!

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