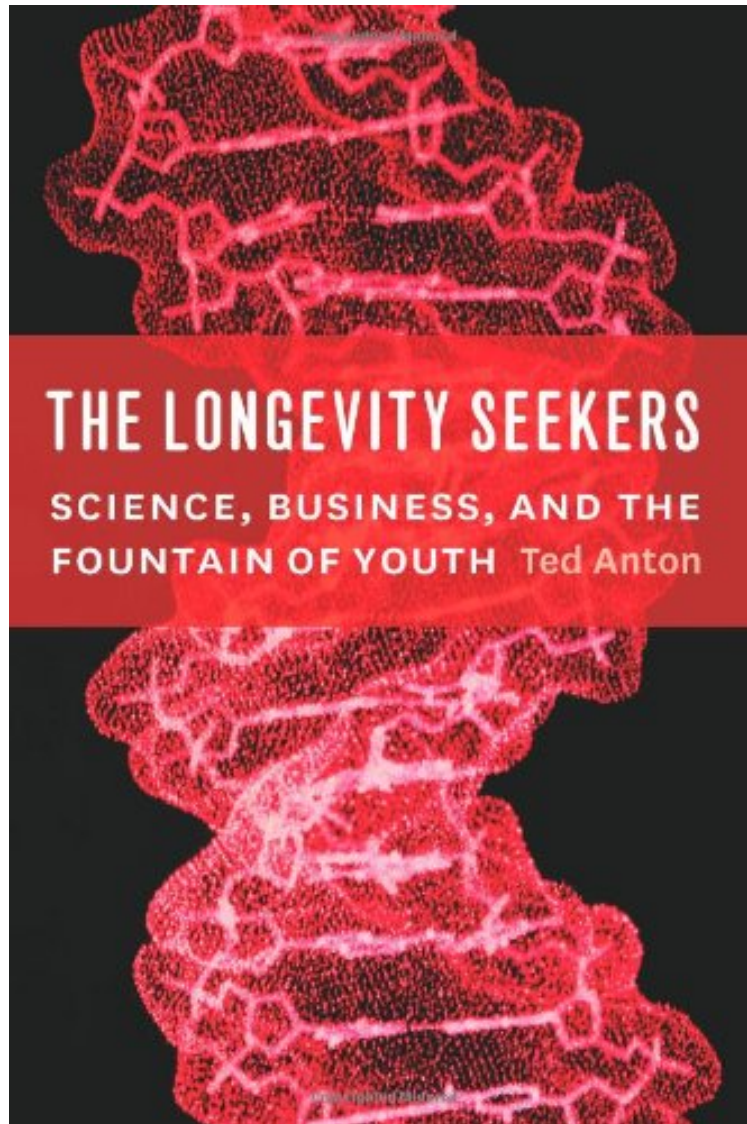


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# The Longevity Seekers: Science, Business, and the Fountain of Youth

*Ted Anton*

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**Ted Anton : The Longevity Seekers: Science, Business, and the Fountain of Youth** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Longevity Seekers: Science, Business, and the Fountain of Youth:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent review of genetic researchBy David ClappWhile the allure of eternal life has been around since Gilgamesh, the realistic promise of understanding and altering our genetic

heritage is very recent and constantly changing. This work covers genetic research into longevity over the past few decades up to 2013. By assessing the styles, egos, publishing and financial pressures, and research methods of high profile academic teams, the author explains why progress is necessarily slow and full of pitfalls. I highly recommend this work as a warning to anyone trying to stay ahead of the longevity game with diet changes based on grand "discoveries." As he notes near the end, even those announcing grand conclusions are hesitant to test their theories on themselves before seeing them confirmed in yet to be completed human trials. Knowing a gene can affect longevity is one thing, reliably and consistently controlling how it affects a complex organism is another. For now, rare quality surveys of genetic research like this are the best we have any right to expect. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Ruben Agrelo If you are interested in aging biology you should read it 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Interesting read, but a bit boring at times By Kreimir Miura This book follows careers of longevity researchers, and describes their successes and failures with great details. Overall it is a good book, and does deliver what it promises. However, to a person unfamiliar with this branch of science (like me) it does get a bit overly technical and boring at times.

People have searched for the fountain of youth everywhere from Bimini to St. Augustine. But for a steadfast group of scientists, the secret to a long life lies elsewhere: in the lowly lab worm. By suppressing the function of just a few key genes, these scientists were able to lengthen worms lifespans up to tenfold, while also controlling the onset of many of the physical problems that beset old age. As the global population ages, the potential impact of this discovery on society is vast as is the potential for profit. With *The Longevity Seekers*, science writer Ted Anton takes readers inside this tale that began with worms and branched out to snare innovative minds from California to Crete, investments from big biotech, and endorsements from TV personalities like Oprah and Dr. Oz. Some of the research was remarkable, such as the discovery of an enzyme in humans that stops cells from aging. And some, like an oft-cited study touting the compound resveratrol, found in red wine proved highly controversial, igniting a science war over truth, credit, and potential profit. As the pace of discovery accelerated, so too did powerful personal rivalries and public fascination, driven by the hope that a longer, healthier life was right around the corner. Anton has spent years interviewing and working with the scientists at the frontier of longevity science, and this book offers a behind-the-scenes look at the state-of-the-art research and the impact it might have on global public health, society, and even our friends and family.

Research, money, and ego are the basic ingredients in the modern-day quest to live longer or forever. Ted Anton takes us into the laboratories and boardrooms in the worldwide competition for longevity, and with expertise and wit tells a wondrous story of contemporary science. (Daniel S. Greenberg, author of *Science for Sale*) "A lively and at times humorous account of the search for the 'longevity genes,' told from the perspective of the pioneers in the field. Anyone with an interest in the new science of aging or the ways in which business and the media influence science is sure to enjoy this book."