Lysenko s Ghost: Epigenetics and Russia (Hardback)

By Loren Graham

HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS, United States, 2016. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. The Soviet agronomist Trofim Lysenko became one of the most notorious figures in twentieth-century science after his genetic theories were discredited decades ago. Yet some scientists, even in the West, now claim that discoveries in the field of epigenetics prove that he was right after all. Seeking to get to the bottom of Lysenko s rehabilitation in certain Russian scientific circles, Loren Graham reopens the case, granting his theories an impartial hearing to determine whether new developments in molecular biology validate his claims. In the 1930s Lysenko advanced a theory of nutrients to explain plant development, basing his insights on experiments which, he claimed, showed one could manipulate environmental conditions such as temperature to convert a winter wheat variety into a spring variety. He considered the inheritance of acquired characteristics--which he called the internalization of environmental conditions --the primary mechanism of heredity. Although his methods were slipshod and his results were never duplicated, his ideas fell on fertile ground during a time of widespread famine in the Soviet Union. Recently, a hypothesis called epigenetic transgenerational inheritance has suggested that acquired characteristics may indeed occasionally be...

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Reviews

The book is fantastic and great. I have got read through and i am confident that i will planning to read yet again once again in the foreseeable future. I found out this book from my dad and i recommended this publication to discover.
-- Prof. Nicole Zieme

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