



The Changing Brain: Alzheimer's Disease and Advances in Neuroscience

By Ira B. Black

Oxford University Press, USA. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 272 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 6.7in. x 0.7in. In The Changing Brain, Ira Black tells the fascinating story of modern neuroscience. A rich, multifaceted tale spanning a century and taking place on multiple continents, it moves from Fascist Italy, with the discovery of nerve growth factor (NGF) by a young scientist working secretly in a makeshift laboratory in her bedroom, to current experiments in which transplanted, laboratory-grown cells lead to recovery and function in damaged brain regions. In the mid 1990s, a revolutionary new conception of the brain emerged--instead of the traditional view that the brain's role in perception, memory, learning, and emotions was based on a static, non-renewable network of brain cells and connections, research revealed that the human brain is an ever-changing, fantastically complex system that is continually being shaped and reshaped by a subtle interplay of genetic clues and life experiences. To bridge the gap between abstract concepts and real-world experience, Dr. Black draws upon his expertise as a clinical neurologist to provide a dramatic account--the fictionalized story of a successful investment banker named Enoch Wallace and his battle with Alzheimer's disease--that vividly illuminates the narrative. From his first...

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