

Anatomy of a Scientific Discovery

The Race to Discover the Secret of Human Pain and Pleasure

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By Jeff Goldberg

Anatomy of a Scientific Discovery chronicles John Hughes and Hans Kosterlitz's discovery of endorphins—the body's natural painkiller. When the breakthroughs came, the astounding implications of what they had found began to unfold: clues to such complex phenomena as appetite control, sexual response, drug addiction, "runner's high," even depression and schizophrenia, as well as pleasure and pain. A scientific odyssey in the grand tradition of The Double Helix, Anatomy of a Scientific Discovery reveals the fascinating human drama behind modern scientific inquiry. In this spirited narrative, Jeff Goldberg tells the remarkable story of the visionaries and self-promoters, sacrifices and betrayals, painstakingly revealed truths and "accidental" revelations that led a handful of men and women in quest of an elusive goal — to fathom the mysteries of that three-pound miracle, the human brain.

— from the publisher



