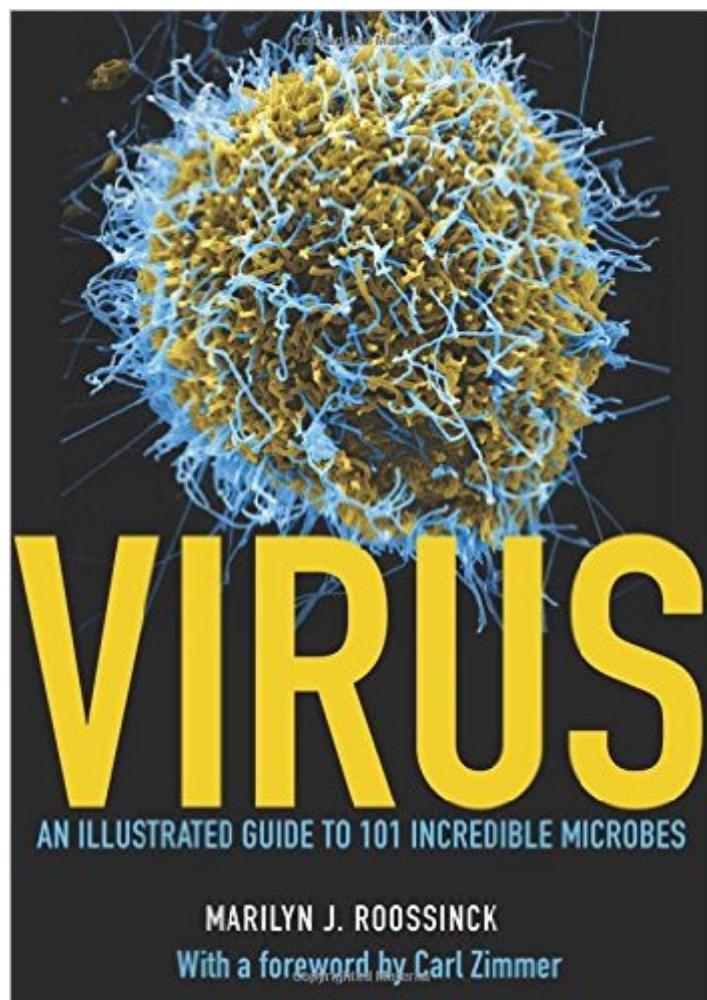


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Virus: An Illustrated Guide To 101 Incredible Microbes



Synopsis

This stunningly illustrated book provides a rare window into the amazing, varied, and often beautiful world of viruses. Contrary to popular belief, not all viruses are bad for you. In fact, several are beneficial to their hosts, and many are crucial to the health of our planet. *Virus* offers an unprecedented look at 101 incredible microbes that infect all branches of life on Earth--from humans and other animals to insects, plants, fungi, and bacteria. Featuring hundreds of breathtaking color images throughout, this guide begins with a lively and informative introduction to virology. Here readers can learn about the history of this unique science, how viruses are named, how their genes work, how they copy and package themselves, how they interact with their hosts, how immune systems counteract viruses, and how viruses travel from host to host. The concise entries that follow highlight important or interesting facts about each virus. Learn about the geographic origins of dengue and why old tires and unused pots help the virus to spread. Read about Ebola, Zika, West Nile, Frog virus 3, the Tulip breaking virus, and many others--how they were discovered, what their hosts are, how they are transmitted, whether or not there is a vaccine, and much more. Each entry is easy to read and includes a graphic of the virus, and nearly every entry features a colorized image of the virus as seen through the microscope. Written by a leading authority, this handsomely illustrated guide reveals the unseen wonders of the microbial world. It will give you an entirely new appreciation for viruses.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I love this book by my colleague Marilyn Roossinck. It's beautiful, an Audubon-like picture book of viruses. A fabulous addition any coffee table. But I've also been enjoying just dipping in to find weird things. A virus that causes tulips to be striped might have caused the first economic bubble. The biggest virus yet discovered was found 120 feet down in a ice core. Roossinck has chosen 101 "remarkable" viruses, and for each there is a striking picture and a few hundred easy-reading words on what makes them remarkable. Now, aficionados will disagree with her choice. For example, she is missing the hugely interesting Marek's disease virus, which in just 50 years went from benign to one of the most lethal viruses known, an evolutionary process that led to the first anti-cancer vaccine. But for sure her eclectic choice makes you think. She covers the classic (measles) and the newsworthy (Zika), as well as the obscure (an apparently pointless virus of penicillin-producing fungi), the beneficial (a virus that is good for clover) and the downright fun (a virus that turns its host blue). If you've ever wondered about what's in the invisible world that shapes our lives so much, this is the book for you. If you live with someone who has no such wonder, leave this book lying around.-- Andrew Read, Evan Pugh Professor of Biology and Entomology, Eberly Professor of Biotechnology, and Director, Center for Infectious Disease Dynamics, Penn State.

This review is specifically regarding the formatting of the hardcover version of the book. I heard about the book and was excited to order it as soon as it is released. However, I was utterly disappointed as soon as I opened the book. The font size of the text is no larger than the mimivirus. Now I need to find a microscope to read it. I recommend getting the kindle version, at least you can choose the proper font size.

Such sadness to have this beautiful book spoiled with a tiny san serif type style. Very puzzling for such an otherwise well designed, interesting book. The images are gorgeous. Excellent forward by Carl Zimmer if you get out your magnifying glass to read it and other text.

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