



The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning

By Jeremy Lent

Download now

Read Online 

The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent

This fresh perspective on crucial questions of history identifies the root metaphors that cultures have used to construct meaning in their world. It offers a glimpse into the minds of a vast range of different peoples: early hunter-gatherers and farmers, ancient Egyptians, traditional Chinese sages, the founders of Christianity, trail-blazers of the Scientific Revolution, and those who constructed our modern consumer society.

Taking the reader on an archaeological exploration of the mind, the author, an entrepreneur and sustainability leader, uses recent findings in cognitive science and systems theory to reveal the hidden layers of values that form today's cultural norms.

Uprooting the tired clichés of the science-religion debate, he shows how medieval Christian rationalism acted as an incubator for scientific thought, which in turn shaped our modern vision of the conquest of nature. The author probes our current crisis of unsustainability and argues that it is not an inevitable result of human nature, but is culturally driven: a product of particular mental patterns that could conceivably be reshaped.

By shining a light on our possible futures, the book foresees a coming struggle between two contrasting views of humanity: one driving to a technological endgame of artificially enhanced humans, the other enabling a sustainable future arising from our intrinsic connectedness with each other and the natural world. This struggle, it concludes, is one in which each of us will play a role through the meaning we choose to forge from the lives we lead.

 [Download The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Hum ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of H ...pdf](#)

The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning

By Jeremy Lent

The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent

This fresh perspective on crucial questions of history identifies the root metaphors that cultures have used to construct meaning in their world. It offers a glimpse into the minds of a vast range of different peoples: early hunter-gatherers and farmers, ancient Egyptians, traditional Chinese sages, the founders of Christianity, trail-blazers of the Scientific Revolution, and those who constructed our modern consumer society.

Taking the reader on an archaeological exploration of the mind, the author, an entrepreneur and sustainability leader, uses recent findings in cognitive science and systems theory to reveal the hidden layers of values that form today's cultural norms.

Uprooting the tired clichés of the science-religion debate, he shows how medieval Christian rationalism acted as an incubator for scientific thought, which in turn shaped our modern vision of the conquest of nature. The author probes our current crisis of unsustainability and argues that it is not an inevitable result of human nature, but is culturally driven: a product of particular mental patterns that could conceivably be reshaped.

By shining a light on our possible futures, the book foresees a coming struggle between two contrasting views of humanity: one driving to a technological endgame of artificially enhanced humans, the other enabling a sustainable future arising from our intrinsic connectedness with each other and the natural world. This struggle, it concludes, is one in which each of us will play a role through the meaning we choose to forge from the lives we lead.

The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent

Bibliography

- Rank: #67744 in Books
- Brand: Lent Jeremy R
- Published on: 2017-05-23
- Released on: 2017-05-23
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.30" h x 1.80" w x 6.20" l, 1.25 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 569 pages



[Download The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Hum ...pdf](#)



[Read Online The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of H ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning* By Jeremy Lent

Editorial Review

Review

“This fascinating, page-turning exploration of the human journey from the stone age to the space shuttle gives us powerful new ways to see ourselves. Deeply researched, and written with great clarity and style, this book is also full of hope about humanity’s possibilities in the twenty-first century.”

—Rick Hanson, PhD, author of *Buddha's Brain: The Practical Neuroscience of Happiness, Love, and Wisdom*

“A tour de force on the biological and psychological background of the human predicament. If you are concerned about our future, you should know about our past. This amazing, well-documented book should be read by every college student and every congressman.”

—Paul R. Ehrlich, author of *Human Natures*

“A brilliant deep dive into the history of human cultures that brings us to today’s cultural dysfunctions that threaten the planet. Insight, illumination, and potential ways out of the seeming dead end that we’ve walked ourselves into. I would recommend it!”

—Thom Hartmann, author of *The Last Hours of Agent Sunlight*

“In prose that is a joy to read, Lent takes us on a tour of human history, guided by systems theory and cognitive science, to argue for the prominence of culture and the habits of the mind in shaping our collective destiny. If you’ve been too busy for the last twenty years to pay attention to the big ideas about the nature of the human animal, the engines of history, our place in the biosphere, and the shape of things to come, Lent can bring you up to date painlessly.”

—J. R. McNeill, University Professor, Georgetown University, and author of *Something New Under the Sun*

“*The Patterning Instinct* is a must-read for anyone concerned about the future of humanity. The book delves beneath the surface of problems facing our world today to examine the dominant cultural assumptions that lie at their root. The book thoughtfully traces how views about human nature and the natural world in both Eastern and Western culture have shaped history and how the emerging global culture of connectedness and the systems view of life may hold the key to humanity’s evolution and future survival.”

—Atossa Soltani, Amazon Watch founder and president

“This breathtaking book is already a classic. With its unique synthesis of thought history, actual historical events, and cultural patterns, it does what no other work has achieved since Lovejoy’s *The Great Chain of Being*. Lent explains in one sweeping argument why global civilization has separated from life. And he shows how we can find our way back into it. Lent narrates the history of humanity’s growing alienation from a shared biosphere and from our own feeling bodies with the suspense and art of a novelist. It is heart-wrenching to see to what degree thought patterns can form not only our worldview, but the actual world, handing it over to destruction. The good message though is Lent proves that humanity’s destructiveness is not God-given; it is, as any cultural pattern, reversible. That is our chance.”

—Andreas Weber, author of *The Biology of Wonder: Aliveness, Feeling, and the Metamorphosis of Science*

“Shell-shocked liberals and progressives are casting around to explain the political setbacks of 2016. *The Patterning Instinct* tells us that seeking answers from recent history is likely to prove forlorn; deep-seated patterns in the way we both think and behave have predisposed us to acting in ways that are self-evidently irrational and against our own interests. To have any hope of transforming this perverse and potentially apocalyptic worldview, we will need to dig much deeper into our own history—and this extraordinary book provides an authoritative and inspirational guide.”

—Jonathon Porritt, environmentalist and author

About the Author

Jeremy R. Lent is a writer and the founder and president of the nonprofit Liology Institute, dedicated to fostering a worldview that could enable humanity to thrive sustainably on the earth. The Liology Institute (www.liology.org), which integrates systems science with ancient wisdom traditions, holds regular workshops and other events in the San Francisco Bay Area. Lent is the author of the novel *Requiem of the Human Soul*. Formerly, he was the founder, CEO, and chairman of a publicly traded Internet company. Lent holds a BA in English Literature from Cambridge University and an MBA from the University of Chicago.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Tara Wilson:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive right now, people have do something to make them survives, being in the middle of the actual crowded place and notice through surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated that for a while is reading. Yeah, by reading a book your ability to survive increase then having chance to stay than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading a book, we give you this particular *The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning* book as nice and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

Lindsey Putman:

As people who live in the particular modest era should be change about what going on or facts even knowledge to make them keep up with the era that is certainly always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will update themselves by studying books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to a person is you don't know what type you should start with. This *The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning* is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and want in this era.

April Robles:

Nowadays reading books become more and more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. Advantages you got of course the knowledge your information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The knowledge you get based on what kind of

reserve you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want truly feel happy read one together with theme for entertaining for instance comic or novel. The particular The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning is kind of e-book which is giving the reader unstable experience.

Patricia French:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition details. Even you love The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning, you can enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh can happen its mind hangout people. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

**Download and Read Online The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent
#NHRCBE87WSQ**

Read The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent for online ebook

The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent books to read online.

Online The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent ebook PDF download

The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent Doc

The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent MobiPocket

The Patterning Instinct: A Cultural History of Humanity's Search for Meaning By Jeremy Lent EPub