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New Scientist

How is a tiny fertilised egg able to turn itself into a human being? How can an acorn transform itself into an oak tree? Over the past twenty years there has been a revolution in biology, and we have begun to understand how organisms make themselves. *The Art of Genes* gives an account of these new findings, and of their broader significance for how we view ourselves.

Through a highly original synthesis of science and art, Enrico Coen vividly describes this revolution in our understanding of how plants and animals develop. Drawing on a wide range of examples — from flowers growing petals instead of sex organs to works of art by Leonardo and Magritte—he explains in lively, accessible prose the language and meaning of genes.

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