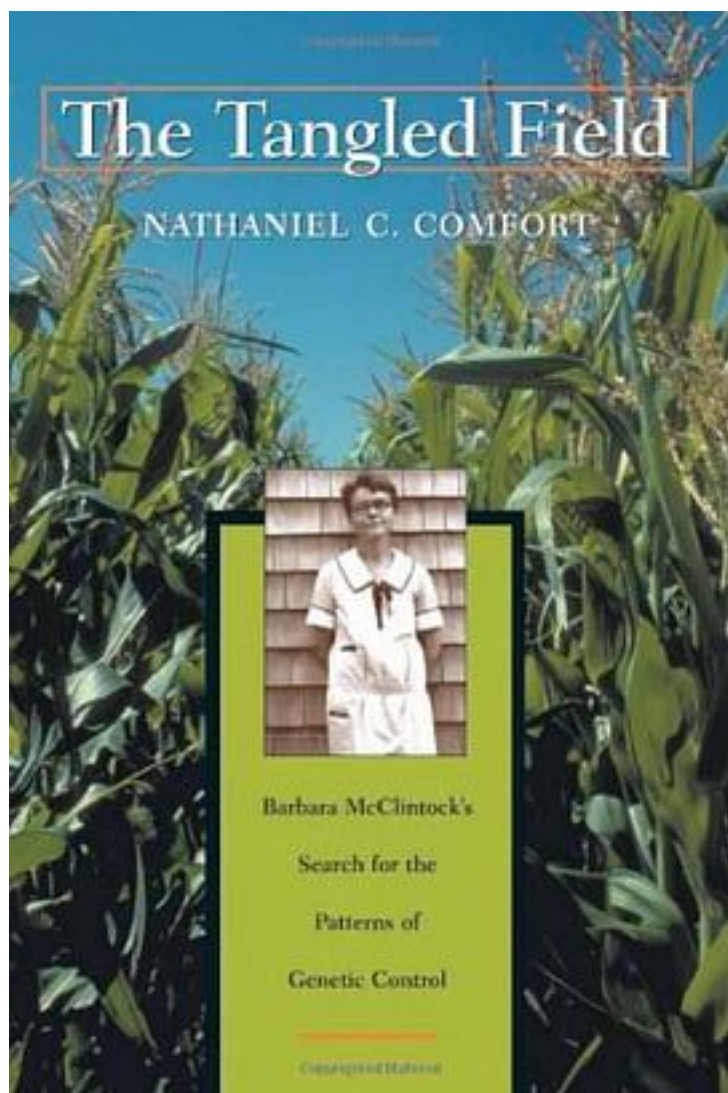


# The Tangled Field



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出版者:

出版时间:2003-4

装帧:

isbn:9780674011083

This biographical study illuminates one of the most important yet misunderstood figures in the history of science. Barbara McClintock (1902-1992), a geneticist who integrated classical genetics with microscopic observations of the behaviour of chromosomes, was regarded as a genius and as an unorthodox, nearly incomprehensible thinker. In 1946, she discovered mobile genetic elements, which she called "controlling elements." Thirty-seven years later, she won a Nobel Prize for this work, becoming the third woman to receive an unshared Nobel in science. Since then, McClintock has become an emblem of feminine scientific thinking and the tragedy of narrow-mindedness and bias in science. Using McClintock's research notes, available correspondence, and dozens of interviews with McClintock and others, Comfort argues that, contrary to various accounts, including Keller's, McClintock's work was neither ignored in the 1950s nor wholly accepted two decades later. Nor was McClintock marginalized by scientists; throughout the decades of her alleged rejection, she remained a distinguished figure in her field.

作者介绍:

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标签

Biography

评论

还是需要历史学家啊，在Keller那本中围绕在科学家身上的神秘氛围被祛掉了许多，好啊好啊

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Barbara McClintock，玉米遗传的泰斗，获诺贝尔奖的植物学家、女性，不管怎么说，都堪称传奇人物了。而这本书，让我觉得有些奇怪的，是作者似乎一直在以一种负面的语气试图要扒下McClintock传奇的神秘外衣，作者一直在告诉我们她的理论学说，有很大一部分都被证明是错误的，而她的贡献也没有传说中的那么神。而孑然一身的她，似乎也得不到常人能够享受的温情与快乐。然而不管怎么说，我们无权去用自己的价值观评价他人的生活。  
其实这本说让我读的兴奋的，是看到现代生物学的发展，从达尔文、孟德尔，到对于基

因的猜想、证伪与证实，到分子生物学的兴起，这些从未知到已知的过程，就是做科研最大的乐趣了吧。想到自己有多少时候就是为了能在更短的时间内发文章，这是我需要反省也多少会感到无奈的事实啊。

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书评

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