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researchers with bitter distaste for their adversaries and often with bruised egos.

Interestingly, despite his assertions to the contrary, Kandel makes research look easy. Perhaps because the experiments and techniques are described with such clear, precise language, and the results—at one time revolutionary—are now accepted as matters of fact, the naive reader might get the feeling that all it takes to win a Nobel Prize is a good idea and a hard head. Nevertheless, the anticipation of a single, successful experiment engulfs the reader like a good thriller, and the special relationships forged among close-working labmates and collaborators, such as Kandel and his dear friend Alden Spencer, give the science a very human feel. Scientists will find such a clear depiction of the life of a researcher gratifying.

Kandel ends his journey through the last century of the science of mind with his perspectives on the future of brain



research and on changes in the academic community—particularly the biotech explosion and the evolving relationship between academia and industry. With half a century's experience, his ideas are

progressive yet cautious, and always given the utmost ethical consideration. Young researchers will be inspired by Kandel's indefatigable enthusiasm to pursue the unknown and to break down barriers between disciplines.

Following his Nobel Prize, Kandel worked with the Austrian president and minister of education to create a symposium designed to address, for the first time at such an official level, Austria's mistreatment of Jews and the intellectual and cultural losses suffered as a result. During a trip to culminate that work, Kandel returned to the door of the tiny apartment in Vienna where he played with his blue toy car, undoubtedly much more aware of what was happening in his brain when his eyes perceived the familiar surroundings and briefly replayed moments of his youth. Although at times chronologically disjointed, *In Search of Memory* retraces the steps that brought Kandel and his memories back to that door.

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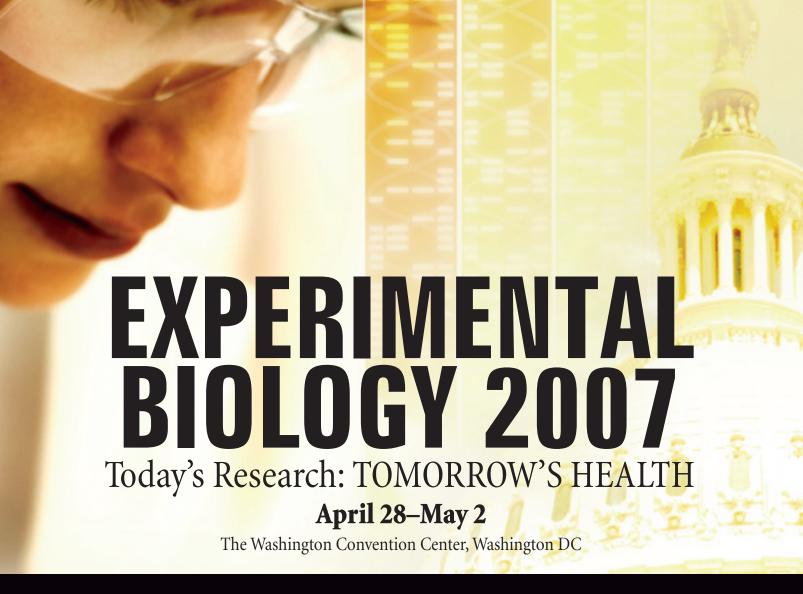
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