From pages 37 – 49 Nathan Brooks

Chapter 2 explains how DNA was discovered, how James Watson and Francis Crick found out how DNA is structured as a ladder like double helix, and how Rosalind Franklin gave us our first images of DNA through the use of X-rays.

This interests me because I have been studying zoology and a large portion of it has been cell division, which includes DNA replication. It is refreshing to see it explained in a slightly different way in a slightly different context, it helps shed light on the nuances of our history.

Chapter 2 also explains a little about how microbes evolve rapidly by using the “swine flu” as an example. Many of the diseases we have to deal with today originated in other animals and migrated to humans at some point.

This topic is interesting to me because it is an example of evolution in action. Many microbes can only live in one environment, the body fluid chemical make-up of a dog is very different from the body fluid of a human, and for a microbe to be able to migrate from one to the other would require a change in the microbe.