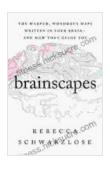
## The Warped, Wondrous Maps Written in Your Brain and How They Guide You

Your brain is a master of cartography. It creates and constantly updates detailed maps of your surroundings, helping you navigate your world with ease. These maps are not perfect replicas of reality, but they are remarkably accurate and efficient. They allow you to find your way around familiar places, even in the dark or when you are distracted.



Brainscapes: The Warped, Wondrous Maps Written in Your Brain—And How They Guide You by Rebecca Schwarzlose

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Language	: English	
File size	: 17386 KB	
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled	
Screen Reader	: Supported	
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled	
X-Ray	: Enabled	
Word Wise	: Enabled	
Print length	: 317 pages	



Brain maps are created through a process called spatial learning. When you explore a new environment, your brain records the relationships between different landmarks. These relationships are then used to create a mental map of the environment. This map is stored in the hippocampus, a brain region that is essential for memory and navigation. Brain maps are not static. They are constantly being updated and revised as you learn new information about your surroundings. For example, if you move to a new house, your brain map of your old neighborhood will gradually fade away, while a new map of your new neighborhood will be created.

Brain maps are not only used for navigation. They are also essential for memory and decision-making. When you remember a past event, your brain retrieves the associated brain map. This map helps you to recall the details of the event and to understand how it relates to other events in your life.

Brain maps also play a role in decision-making. When you are faced with a decision, your brain considers the different options and their associated brain maps. This information helps you to make the best possible decision for your current situation.

The brain's ability to create and use maps is a remarkable feat of engineering. These maps allow us to navigate our world with ease, remember the past, and make decisions about the future. They are a testament to the power of the human brain.

### How Brain Maps Are Warped

Brain maps are not perfect replicas of reality. They are warped in a number of ways.

 Distance is distorted. The distances between landmarks in your brain map are not always accurate. This is because your brain is more interested in the relationships between landmarks than in their absolute distances.

- Angles are distorted. The angles between landmarks in your brain map are also not always accurate. This is because your brain is more interested in the overall shape of your environment than in the precise angles between objects.
- Objects are simplified. The objects in your brain map are often simplified representations of the real objects. This is because your brain is more interested in the gist of an object than in its細かい details.

These distortions are not random. They are a result of the way that your brain processes information. Your brain is constantly trying to make sense of the world around you, and it does this by creating simplified models of reality.

The distortions in brain maps can sometimes lead to errors in navigation. For example, you may find yourself taking a wrong turn because your brain map of the area is inaccurate. However, these errors are usually minor, and they are outweighed by the benefits of having a brain map.

### How Brain Maps Guide You

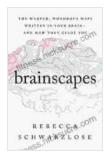
Brain maps play a vital role in guiding you through your world. They help you to:

• **Navigate your surroundings.** Brain maps help you to find your way around familiar places, even in the dark or when you are distracted.

- Remember the past. Brain maps help you to recall the details of past events and to understand how they relate to other events in your life.
- Make decisions. Brain maps help you to consider the different options available to you and to make the best possible decision for your current situation.

Brain maps are a powerful tool that can help you to live a more fulfilling life. They allow you to navigate your world with ease, remember the past, and make decisions about the future.

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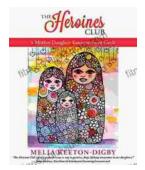
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