Your Brain Doesn't Work the Way You Think It Does

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At the very beginning of her new book Seven and a Half Lessons About the Brain, psychology professor Lisa Feldman Barrett writes that each chapter will present "a few compelling scientific nuggets about your brain and considers what they might reveal about human nature." Though it's an accurate description of what follows, it dramatically undersells the degree to which each lesson will enlighten and unsettle you. It's like lifting up the hood of a car to see an engine, except that the car is you and you find an engine that doesn't work at all like you thought it did.

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