



AIA BOOK CLUB SELECTION

Ancestors: The Prehistory of Britain in Seven Burials by Professor Alice Roberts

An extraordinary exploration of the ancestry of Britain through seven burial sites. By using new advances in genetics and taking us through important archaeological discoveries, Professor Alice Roberts helps us better understand life today.

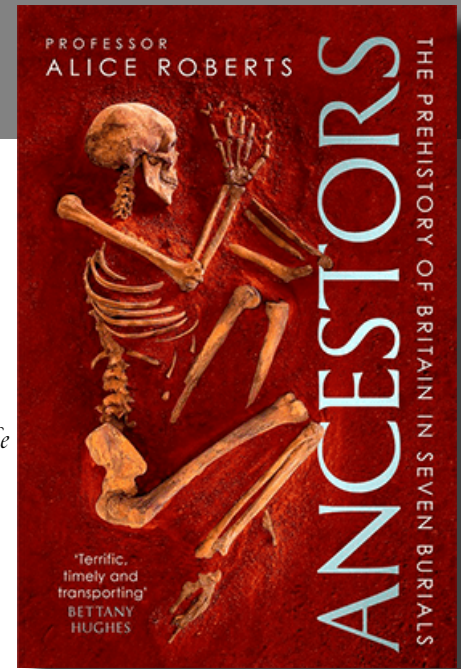
'This is a terrific, timely and transporting book - taking us heart, body and mind beyond history, to the fascinating truth of the prehistoric past and the present' Bettany Hughes

We often think of Britain springing from nowhere with the arrival of the Romans. But in *Ancestors*, pre-eminent archaeologist, broadcaster and academic Professor Alice Roberts explores what we can learn about the very earliest Britons, from burial sites and by using new technology to analyse ancient DNA.

Told through seven fascinating burial sites, this groundbreaking prehistory of Britain teaches us more about ourselves and our history: how people came and went and how we came to be on this island. It explores forgotten journeys and memories of migrations long ago, written into genes and preserved in the ground for thousands of years.

This is a book about belonging: about walking in ancient places, in the footsteps of the ancestors. It explores our interconnected global ancestry, and the human experience that binds us all together. It's about reaching back in time, to find ourselves, and our place in the world.

Publisher's Description



Author's Bio:

I make programmes and write books about human anatomy, physiology, evolution, archaeology and history. I passionately believe that universities are about generating and spreading knowledge to the widest possible audience.

I'm a medical doctor, and went on to become a university lecturer. I taught human anatomy to students and doctors, and did research into human origins and disease in ancient skeletons - which formed the basis for my PhD. But all the time, I felt that it was important to engage with people outside universities, of all ages and backgrounds. I've been Professor of Public Engagement with Science at the University of Birmingham since 2012.

I made my television debut back in 2001, as a human bone specialist on Channel 4's *Time Team*. I went on to present *Coast* on BBC2, and then to write and present a range of television series for BBC2, including *The Incredible Human Journey*, *Origins of Us* and *Ice Age Giants*, as well as several Horizon programmes. I've presented three series of *Britain's Most Historic Towns* on Channel 4, and eight series of the enduringly popular BBC series *Digging for Britain*.

I've written numerous popular science books. My book *The Incredible Unlikelihood of Being*, was shortlisted for the Wellcome Book Prize 2015.

Preview of the book filmed at Cheddar Gorge: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qcyNhg_Nuso

Author Reading with Alice Roberts

Book Discussion from Royal Society (July 2021): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9YLXTtHOYIk>

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