

# LEE DUGATKIN, PhD

## HOW TO TAME A FOX AND BUILD A DOG

Monday, 18.02.2019, 13:15 at VetMed Uni



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## HOW TO TAME A FOX AND BUILD A DOG

For the last six decades a dedicated team of researchers in Siberia has been domesticating silver foxes to replay the evolution of the dog in real time. Ludmilla Trut has been lead scientist on this work since 1959, and together with biologist and historian of science, Lee Dugatkin, she tells the inside story of science, politics, and adventure and love behind it all. Like a set of Russian nesting dolls, *How to Tame a Fox (and Build a Dog)* opens up to reveal story after story, each embedded within the one that preceded it. Inside this tale of path-breaking science in the midst of -35° winters in Siberia is hidden a remarkable collaboration between an older, freethinking scientific genius and a trusting, but gutsy young woman. Together these two risked not just their careers, but to an extent their lives, to make scientific history. If you go one level deeper, you find yourself lost in the magical tale of how some hardscrabble but openhearted humans and the wild animals who they domesticated developed such deep attachments to each other that both seemed to forget the species divide between them.

**Dr. Lee Dugatkin** is an evolutionary biologist and a historian of science in the Department of Biology at the University of Louisville, and the author of more than 150 papers. He has lectured at more than 125 universities around the world, and is the author of nine books, including *How to Tame a Fox and Build a Dog*, which the *New York Times* called "Sparkling....A story that is part science, part Russian fairy tale, and part spy thriller" and of which *Forbes Magazine* wrote "If you read only two biology books this year, this is one of those two that you simply must read."