

The Black Swan - first impressions

I'm still in the prologue, and already I deeply dislike this book. I'm hoping that the prologue is ironic, because if not, then it appears both arrogant and unaware of much of the work on risk management and risk perception that started out in artificial intelligence with the frame problem, nonmonotonic logics and some very long (as in decades-long) arguments about value and uncertainty.

I'll probably persist, because I was given the book to read by someone whose judgement I rate, but I suspect I'm going to find it difficult not to shout at the pages sometimes. Maybe it would have been easier if I hadn't started this book right after the academic joy that was reading *Stumbling on Happiness*.