



**FIGURE 22.25.** In the Dobzhansky–Muller model, an ancestral  $aabb$  population can substitute either allele  $A$  at one locus or  $B$  at another locus without any loss in fitness. However, if any genotype carrying both  $A$  and  $B$  dies or is sterile (i.e., has zero fitness), then there will be complete reproductive isolation. The adaptive landscape shows the mean fitness of a random-mating population as a function of allele frequencies at the two loci. The ancestral population fixed for  $a$  and  $b$  can evolve along ridges of high fitness, but when the derived populations ( $Ab$ ,  $aB$ ) cross, fitness is lost.