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## KANE CAREY

[Climbing Mount Improbable](#) Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Patiently and lucidly, this Los Angeles Times Book Award and Royal Society of Literature Heinemann Prize winner identifies the aspects of the theory of evolution that people find hard to believe and removes the barriers to credibility one by one. As readable and vigorous a defense of Darwinism as has been published since 1859.--The Economist.

*The Selfish Meme* MIT Press

Science need not be dull and bogged down by jargon, as Richard Dawkins proves in this entertaining look at evolution. The themes he takes up are the concepts of altruistic and selfish behaviour; the genetical definition of selfish interest; the evolution of aggressive behaviour; kinship theory; sex ratio theory; reciprocal altruism; deceit; and the natural selection of sex differences. 'Should be read, can be read by almost anyone. It describes with great skill a new face of the theory of evolution.' W.D. Hamilton, *Science*

**The Blind Watchmaker** Icon Books

A revised and updated edition of a title exploring the battle between evolutionary theory's biggest names. Known as one of the fiercest battles in science Dawkins and Gould and their supporters have argued over evolution, for over twenty years, and continue, despite Gould's death. Kim Sterelny exposes the real differences between the conceptions of evolution of these two leading scientists. He shows that the conflict extends beyond evolution to their very beliefs in science itself.

*The Greatest Show on Earth* Spektrum Akademischer Verlag

A brilliant book celebrating improbability as the engine that drives life, by the acclaimed author of *The Selfish Gene* and *The Blind Watchmaker*. The human eye is so complex and works so precisely that surely, one might believe, its current shape and function must be the product of design. How could such an intricate object have come about by chance? Tackling this subject—in writing that the *New York Times* called "a masterpiece"—Richard Dawkins builds a carefully reasoned and lovingly illustrated argument for evolutionary adaptation as the mechanism for life on earth. The metaphor of Mount Improbable represents the combination of perfection and improbability that is epitomized in the seemingly "designed" complexity of living things. Dawkins skillfully guides the reader on a breathtaking journey through the mountain's passes and up its many peaks to demonstrate that following the improbable path to perfection takes time. Evocative illustrations accompany Dawkins's eloquent descriptions of extraordinary adaptations such as the teeming populations of figs, the intricate silken world of spiders, and the evolution of wings on the bodies of flightless animals. And through it all runs the thread of DNA, the molecule of life, responsible for its own destiny on an unending pilgrimage through time. *Climbing Mount Improbable* is a book of great impact and skill, written by the most prominent Darwinian of our age.

[Biological Emergences](#) Oxford University Press, USA

A renowned biologist provides a sweeping chronicle of more than four billion years of life on Earth, shedding new light on evolutionary theory and history, sexual selection, speciation, extinction, and genetics.

*The Red Queen* Cambridge University Press

Selected and introduced by Richard Dawkins, *The Oxford Book of Modern Science Writing* is a celebration of the finest writing by scientists for a wider audience - revealing that many of the best scientists have displayed as much imagination and skill with the pen as they have in the laboratory. This is a rich and vibrant collection that captures the poetry and excitement of communicating scientific understanding and scientific effort from 1900 to the present day. Professor Dawkins has included writing from a diverse range of scientists, some of whom need no introduction, and some of whose works have become modern classics, while others may be less familiar - but all

convey the passion of great scientists writing about their science.

*An Appetite for Wonder* Random House

In *The Selfish Gene*, Richard Dawkins crystallized the gene's eye view of evolution developed by W.D. Hamilton and others. The book provoked widespread and heated debate. Written in part as a response, *The Extended Phenotype* gave a deeper clarification of the central concept of the gene as the unit of selection; but it did much more besides. In it, Dawkins extended the gene's eye view to argue that the genes that sit within an organism have an influence that reaches out beyond the visible traits in that body - the phenotype - to the wider environment, which can include other individuals. So, for instance, the genes of the beaver drive it to gather twigs to produce the substantial physical structure of a dam; and the genes of the cuckoo chick produce effects that manipulate the behaviour of the host bird, making it nurture the intruder as one of its own. This notion of the extended phenotype has proved to be highly influential in the way we understand evolution and the natural world. It represents a key scientific contribution to evolutionary biology, and it continues to play an important role in research in the life sciences. *The Extended Phenotype* is a conceptually deep book that forms important reading for biologists and students. But Dawkins' clear exposition is accessible to all who are prepared to put in a little effort. Oxford Landmark Science books are 'must-read' classics of modern science writing which have crystallized big ideas, and shaped the way we think.

**The Oxford Book of Modern Science Writing** Hyperink Inc

Revision of: *Selfish gene*. 2006. 30th anniversary ed. Including two key chapters from *The Extended Phenotype*.

**Darwinian Fairytales** Harper Collins

Richard Dawkins transformed our view of God in his blockbuster, *The God Delusion*, which sold more than 2 million copies in English alone. He revolutionized the way we see natural selection in the seminal bestseller *The Selfish Gene*. Now, he launches a fierce counterattack against proponents of "Intelligent Design" in his latest *New York Times* bestseller, *The Greatest Show on Earth*. "Intelligent Design" is being taught in our schools; educators are being asked to "teach the controversy" behind evolutionary theory. There is no controversy. Dawkins sifts through rich layers of scientific evidence—from living examples of natural selection to clues in the fossil record; from natural clocks that mark the vast epochs wherein evolution ran its course to the intricacies of developing embryos; from plate tectonics to molecular genetics—to make the airtight case that "we find ourselves perched on one tiny twig in the midst of a blossoming and flourishing tree of life and it is no accident, but the direct consequence of evolution by non-random selection." His unjaded passion for the natural world turns what might have been a negative argument, exposing the absurdities of the creationist position, into a positive offering to the reader: nothing less than a master's vision of life, in all its splendor.

[The Gene's-Eye View of Evolution](#) Oxford University Press

Richard Dawkins provides excellent examples of his reasoning and interpretation skills in *The Selfish Gene*. His 1976 book is not a work of original research, but instead a careful explanation of evolution, combined with an argument for a particular interpretation of several aspects of evolution. Since Dawkins is building on other researchers' work and writing for a general audience, the central elements of good reasoning are vital to his book: producing a clear argument and presenting a persuasive case; organising an argument and supporting its conclusions. In doing this, Dawkins also employs the crucial skill of interpretation: understanding what evidence means; clarifying terms; questioning definitions; giving clear definitions on which to build arguments. The strength of his reasoning and interpretative skills played a key part in the widespread acceptance of his argument for a gene-centred interpretation of natural selection and evolution - and in its history as a bestselling classic of science writing.

*Key Ideas from the Selfish Gene - Richard Dawkins* Oxford University Press, USA

Sind wir Marionetten unserer eigenen Gene? Nach Richard Dawkins vor 30 Jahren entworfener und heute noch immer provozierender These steuern und dirigieren unsere von Generation zu Generation weitergegebenen Gene uns, um sich selbst zu erhalten. Alle biologischen Organismen dienen somit vor allem dem Überleben und der Unsterblichkeit der Erbanlagen und sind letztlich nur die "Einwegebehälter" der "egoistischen" Gene. Sind wir Menschen also unserem Gen-Schicksal hilflos ausgeliefert? Dawkins bestreitet dies und macht uns Hoffnung: Seiner Meinung nach sind wir nämlich die einzige Spezies mit der Chance, gegen ihr genetisches Schicksal anzukämpfen. Zum 30. Jubiläum des "egoistischen Gens" erscheint diese Ausgabe - mit einem neuen Vorwort von Richard Dawkins und einem von Wolfgang Wickler. Meinungen zum Buch: "Dieses Buch sollte gelesen werden, kann gelesen werden, und das von nahezu jedem. Es beschreibt mit großem Geschick eine neue Facette der Evolutionstheorie." William D. Hamilton in Science "Gelehrt, geistreich und sehr gut geschrieben ... ausgesprochen gut." Peter Medawar in The Spectator "Dieses mit Eleganz und Präzision gedachte und mit Witz und Leidenschaft geschriebene Buch Das egoistische Gen hat in 30 Jahren weder an Faszination noch an Aktualität einbüßt. Es sollte weiterhin Pflichtlektüre sein für alle Vertreter der Biologie und der Spezialbereiche aus Anthropologie, Epistemologie, Erkenntnistheorie, Ethik, Medizin, Ökologie, Ökonomie, Philosophie, Psychologie, Soziologie, die sich heutzutage mit dem Beinamen "Evolutionär" schmücken." Wolfgang Wickler in seinem Vorwort zu diesem Buch "Hier liegt ein echter kultureller Meilenstein unserer Zeit vor." The Independent "Kaufen Sie dieses Buch, lesen Sie es, und empfehlen Sie es Ihren Studenten. ... es gibt noch nichts anderes Vergleichbares." Animal Behaviour

[The Selfish Gene \(summary\)](#) Routledge

Renowned philosopher Mary Midgley explores the nature of our moral constitution to challenge the view that reduces human motivation to self-interest. Midgley argues cogently and convincingly that simple, one-sided accounts of human motives, such as the 'selfish gene' tendency in recent neo-Darwinian thought, may be illuminating but are always unrealistic. Such neatness, she shows, cannot be imposed on human psychology. She returns to Darwin's original writings to show how the reductive individualism which is now presented as Darwinism does not derive from Darwin but from a wider, Hobbesian tradition in Enlightenment thinking. She reveals the selfish gene hypothesis as a cultural accretion that is just not seen in nature. Heroic independence is not a realistic aim for Homo sapiens. We are, as Darwin saw, earthly organisms, framed to interact constantly with one another and with the complex ecosystems of which we are a tiny part. For us, bonds are not just restraints but also lifelines.

[The Snow Geese of La Pérouse Bay](#) Free Press

Published to coincide with the 30th anniversary of 'The Selfish Gene', this collection explores the impact of Richard Dawkins as scientist, rationalist, and one of the most important thinkers alive today.

[Summary of The Selfish Gene](#) Oxford University Press

[Publisher Description](#)

[Richard Dawkins](#) CRC Press

The Selfish Gene Oxford University Press, USA

**An Appetite for Wonder** Harvard University Press

The million copy international bestseller, critically acclaimed and translated into over 25 languages. As influential today as when it was first published, *The Selfish Gene* has become a classic exposition of evolutionary thought. Professor Dawkins articulates a gene's eye view of evolution - a view giving centre stage to these persistent units of information, and in which organisms can be seen as vehicles for their replication. This imaginative, powerful, and stylistically brilliant work not only brought the insights of Neo-Darwinism to a wide audience, but galvanized the biology community, generating much debate and stimulating whole new areas of research. Forty years later, its insights remain as relevant today as on the day it was published. This 40th anniversary edition includes a new epilogue from the author discussing the continuing relevance of these ideas in evolutionary biology today, as well as the original prefaces and foreword, and extracts from early reviews. Oxford Landmark Science books are 'must-read' classics of modern science writing which have crystallized big ideas, and shaped the way we think.

*The Solitary Self* Simon and Schuster

Does the inheritance of acquired characteristics play a significant role in evolution? In this book, Eva

Jablonka and Marion J. Lamb attempt to answer that question with an original, provocative exploration of the nature and origin of hereditary variations. Starting with a historical account of Lamarck's ideas and the reasons they have fallen in disrepute, the authors go on to challenge the prevailing assumption that all heritable variation is random and the result of variation in DNA base sequences. They also detail recent breakthroughs in our understanding of the molecular mechanisms underlying inheritance—including several pathways not envisioned by classical population genetics—and argue that these advances need to be more fully incorporated into mainstream evolutionary theory. Throughout, the book offers a new look at the evidence for and against the heritability of environmentally induced changes, and addresses timely questions about the importance of non-Mendelian inheritance. A glossary and extensive list of references round out the book. Urging a reconsideration of the present DNA-centric view prevalent in the field, Epigenetic Inheritance and Evolution will make fascinating and important reading for students and researchers in evolution, genetics, ecology, molecular biology, developmental biology, and the history and philosophy of science.

[Dawkins Vs. Gould](#) Readdrepreneur Publishing

Born to parents who were enthusiastic naturalists, and linked through his wider family to a clutch of accomplished scientists, Richard Dawkins was bound to have biology in his genes. But what were the influences that shaped his life? And who inspired him to become the pioneering scientist and public thinker now famous (and infamous to some) around the world? In *An Appetite for Wonder* we join him on a personal journey from an enchanting childhood in colonial Africa, through the eccentricities of boarding school in England, to his studies at the University of Oxford's dynamic Zoology Department, which sparked his radical new vision of Darwinism, *The Selfish Gene*. Through Dawkins's honest self-reflection, touching reminiscences and witty anecdotes, we are finally able to understand the private influences that shaped the public man who, more than anyone else in his generation, explained our own origins.

Oxford University Press, USA

Richard Dawkins provides excellent examples of his reasoning and interpretation skills in *The Selfish Gene*. His 1976 book is not a work of original research, but instead a careful explanation of evolution, combined with an argument for a particular interpretation of several aspects of evolution. Since Dawkins is building on other researchers' work and writing for a general audience, the central elements of good reasoning are vital to his book: producing a clear argument and presenting a persuasive case; organising an argument and supporting its conclusions. In doing this, Dawkins also employs the crucial skill of interpretation: understanding what evidence means; clarifying terms; questioning definitions; giving clear definitions on which to build arguments. The strength of his reasoning and interpretative skills played a key part in the widespread acceptance of his argument for a gene-centred interpretation of natural selection and evolution - and in its history as a bestselling classic of science writing.

**The Society of Genes** Encounter Books

How the meaningless process of natural selection produces purposeful beings who find meaning in the world. In *From Darwin to Derrida*, evolutionary biologist David Haig explains how a physical world of matter in motion gave rise to a living world of purpose and meaning. Natural selection, a process without purpose, gives rise to purposeful beings who find meaning in the world. The key to this, Haig proposes, is the origin of mutable "texts"—genes—that preserve a record of what has worked in the world. These texts become the specifications for the intricate mechanisms of living beings. Haig draws on a wide range of sources—from Laurence Sterne's *Tristram Shandy* to Immanuel Kant's *Critique of the Power of Judgment* to the work of Jacques Derrida to the latest findings on gene transmission, duplication, and expression—to make his argument. Genes and their effects, he explains, are like eggs and chickens. Eggs exist for the sake of becoming chickens and chickens for the sake of laying eggs. A gene's effects have a causal role in determining which genes are copied. A gene (considered as a lineage of material copies) persists if its lineage has been consistently associated with survival and reproduction. Organisms can be understood as interpreters that link information from the environment to meaningful action in the environment. Meaning, Haig argues, is the output of a process of interpretation; there is a continuum from the very simplest forms of interpretation, instantiated in single RNA molecules near the origins of life, to the most sophisticated. Life is interpretation—the use of information in choice.

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