

EVOLUTION EXTENDED

Biological Debates on the Meaning of Life

edited by Connie Barlow

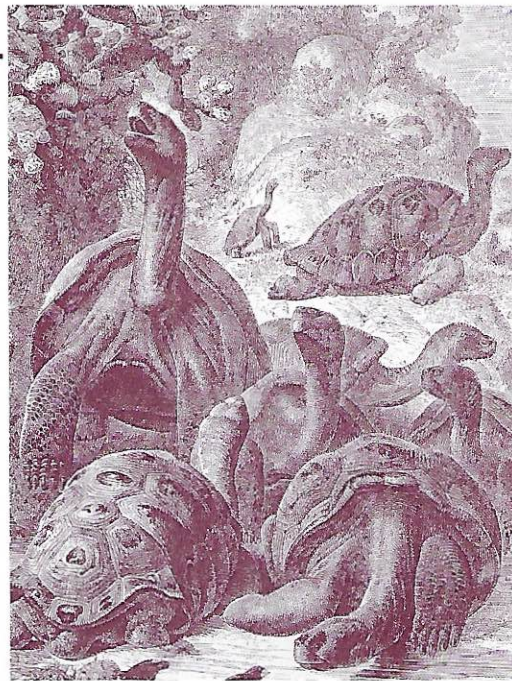
"I have fashioned this collage of writings to give it the feel of a salon. The voices reappear, form alliances and take issue with one another by name, revealing along the way the flesh-and-blood humans engaged in the drama of worldviews in collision." — Connie Barlow

As in her first well-received anthology, *From Gaia to Selfish Genes*, Connie Barlow has woven selections from the writings of biologists and philosophers into a unified whole. Once again she explores a range of viewpoints as she invites readers to formulate their own opinions. Editorial passages provide the historical context and introduce the debates that have ensued whenever evolutionary biology has been extended into the realm of meaning.

Selections are drawn from both classic and contemporary writings — from Darwin to Dawkins. Debates center on whether evolution is progressive and whether life on earth has meaning in the cosmos at large. The diversity of metaphors that have been used to depict the processes that drive evolution and the tension between science and religion are also central themes. Selections focus on these issues, but the reader is also given a solid grounding in the science of evolutionary biology and the history of life.

Some of the very best writers in biology are presented here. The literary quality of their words is matched by the editor's choice of fine art and biological illustrations; poetry evocative of the text accompanies the major essays. The format is similar to that of the first anthology, which won an award for overall excellence of design.

Connie Barlow is a science writer and freelance editor.



"Evolution Extended is a marvelous book. It is much more than an anthology. Ms. Barlow's running commentary weaves together her carefully chosen and apt selections into a coherent whole. She addresses some of the 'big' questions of evolution that often fall from view in more narrowly technical discussions. Yet, she does not underestimate the intelligence of her readers."

— Bruce H. Weber, Professor of Biochemistry, California State University, Fullerton

"Connie Barlow has chosen from the very best writings of some of the most articulate people of our times." — Robert Ulanowicz, Professor, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, University of Maryland

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Contents: Prophets of Progress. J. Huxley. F. J. Ayala. E.O. Wilson. The Naysayers. G. G. Simpson. J. T. Bonner. D. Raup. Wedges, Arms Races, and the Role of Strife. C. Darwin. R. Dawkins. Governors, Tinkerers, and the Role of Synergy. G. Bateson. F. Jacob. Lynn M. and M. McMenemy. P. A. Corning.

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