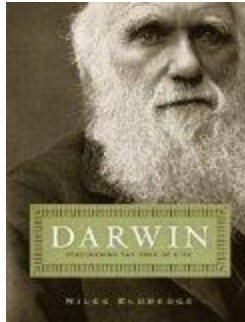


Darwin: Discovering the Tree of Life by Niles Eldredge



[One Of The Best Short Books On Darwin](#)

A riveting tribute to Charles Darwin's life and ideas in celebration of his 200th birthday. Charles Darwin's ideas resonate deeply in Western culture today, and his theory still lies at the heart of modern scientific evolutionary research. As other nineteenth-century figures fade, Darwin's theory of evolution still provokes controversy, spilling over into curriculum battles at state and local school boards in the United States and around the world. In exploring the everyday artifacts of Darwin's life, his notebooks, and early manuscripts, Niles Eldredge, a candid, no-punches-pulled interpreter of the core ideas of evolutionary biology (Science News) provides a rare glimpse into the mind of this highly intuitive, creative scientist. The celebration of Charles Darwin's 200th birthday in 2009 begins in November 2005 with the opening of a major exhibition at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, curated by Eldredge, that will travel across the nation. More than a companion book to the exhibit, Darwin is a rich and inspiring reconstruction of Darwin's life through his writings and discoveries. color throughout, 100 illustrations.

My Personal Review:

I found this book to be both highly informative as well as beautifully produced. The author, a distinguished paleontologist currently at New York's American Museum of Natural History, who was curator on the smashing exhibit last year commemorating Darwin at the museum which I had the privilege of seeing, accomplishes a number of objectives in this volume. First, he focuses upon Darwin's own history, methods and theories. Next, he does an examination of Darwin's famous Red and Transmutation notebooks, including interesting photographs of some of the pages. The reader soon comes to understand why the author feels that much of Darwin's evolutionary theory was anticipated in these journals long before he published *On the Origin of Species*. This discussion is succeeded by one on Darwin's own early manuscripts (i.e., *The 1842 Sketch and the Essay of 1844*), which integrates well with his analysis of the notebooks. The author also does a concise review of the *Origin* itself.

One of the most interesting chapters is on Evolution After Darwin, including the period when discussion of Darwin almost disappeared from the scene. The final chapter discusses Darwin, religion and the current intelligent design debate.

The author strikes a remarkable balance between a level of discussion aimed at the general reader while injecting some substantial scientific information as well. His recounting of some of the most recent leading evolutionary research is particularly informative. The book's illustrations are exceedingly helpful in illuminating the author's analysis--many are beautiful color photographs of the first quality. The book is printed on the finest glossy paper as well, resulting in a beautiful production. So, while written for a general audience, there is a good dose of scientific information as well. And the writing is always clear and concise (the entire book including illustrations and bibliography runs around 245 pages). A solid addition to the literature on Darwin and evolution.

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Start by marking "Darwin: Discovering the Tree of Life" as Want to Read: Want to Read savingâ€¦ Want to Read.Â Charles Darwin's ideas resonate deeply in Western culture today, and his theory still lies at the heart of modern scientific evolutionary research. As other nineteenth-century figures fade, Darwin's theory of evolution still provokes controversy, spilling over into curriculum battles at state and local school boards in the United States and around the world. In exploring th Charles Darwin's ideas resonate deeply in Western culture today, and his theory still lies at the heart of modern scientific evolutionary research. Article excerpt. Niles Eldredge. Darwin: Discovering the Tree of Life. New York: Norton, 2005. Charles Darwin was born in 1809 and today, almost 200 after his birth, he continues to be a towering figure in Western culture, having inspired scientific advancement, intellectual debate, and moral controversy in every generation succeeding the publication of his theories. Eldredge writes, "Darwin remains, like Lincoln, a symbol of worldview. A view of what life is and how it came to be, and above all else, a view of who we humans are and how we came to be that remains in some quarters a promis The Voyage Of Charles Darwin 6 - (Suppose that all animals and all plants are represented by the branches of a tree, the tree of life). Channel 1859. 5:05. Oak tree and wasp eggs - Life in the Undergrowth - BBC Attenborough. Rushtense. 39:33.

Article excerpt. Niles Eldredge. Darwin: Discovering the Tree of Life. New York: Norton, 2005. Charles Darwin was born in 1809 and today, almost 200 after his birth, he continues to be a towering figure in Western culture, having inspired scientific advancement, intellectual debate, and moral controversy in every generation succeeding the publication of his theories. Eldredge writes, "Darwin remains, like Lincoln, a symbol of worldview. A view of what life is and how it came to be, and above all else, a view of who we humans are and how we came to be that remains in some quarters a promise Darwin : discovering the tree of life. Item Preview. remove-circle. Start by marking "Darwin: Discovering the Tree of Life" as Want to Read: Want to Read savingâ€¦| Want to Read.Â" In exploring the everyday artifacts of Darwin's life, his notebooks, and early manuscripts, Niles Eldredge "a candid, no-punches-pulled interpreter of the core ideas of evolutionary biology" (Science News) provides a rare glimpse into the mind of this highly intuitive, creative scientist. The celebration of Charles Darwin's 200th birthday in 2009 begins in November 2005 with the opening of a major exhibition at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, curated by Eldredge, that will travel across the nation. More than a companion book to the exhibit, Darwin is a r