

The Selfish Gene Richard Dawkins

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the million copy international bestseller critically acclaimed and translated into over 25 languages this 30th anniversary edition includes a new introduction from the author as well as the original prefaces and foreword and extracts from early reviews as relevant and 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

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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 kinshiptheory 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

in this influential and controversial book that has become a classic in popular science writing dawkins furthers his fascinating look at the evolution of life and natural selection

about the book in a 2006 interview with meet the author the year when the selfish gene celebrated its 30th anniversary richard dawkins had this to say if i had to write it again i wouldn't write it very differently it has been described as a revolutionary book in one respect it is but it's only a revolutionary way in looking at orthodox darwinian natural selection it helps to look at it in this revolutionary way it could equally well have been

called the altruistic animal because if you have selfish genes which only means that natural selection works at the level of the gene if you have selfish genes then you may have altruistic individuals and that's what the book is about what Dawkins describes as revolutionary others have construed as controversial when the selfish gene was first published in 1976 it created a number of waves within the study evolutionary biology largely dominated by Darwinian doctrine one could say it made a splash in the gene pool if Darwin's idea of natural selection was based on the concept of survival of the fittest then why does altruism exist between individuals why aren't all living things selfish in a cutthroat battle for survival Dawkins strove to explain altruism in the selfish gene with the argument that altruistic behavior can be explained through the selfishness of our genes excerpt from the book if it runs away chase it if it comes at you fight back in a relationship such as prey versus predator Dawkins explains possible strategies a retaliator doesn't attack aggressively but will act in a threatening manner if the opponent attacks first the retaliator will as you guessed retaliate retaliators behave based upon their opponent's behavior making them conditional strategists in addition to retaliators there are two other kinds of conditional strategies bullies and prober retaliators a bully attacks until an opponent strikes back in which case the bully immediately retreats prober retaliators are essentially retaliators but can initiate an attack like a bully and if the opponent fights back will defend itself in these strategies the retaliator is an ess the prober retaliator is nearly stable and the bully is not stable chapter 6 genemanship the key point of this chapter is that genes might be able to assist replicas of itself that are sitting in other bodies if so this would appear as individual altruism but it would be brought about by gene selfishness 88 in the previous chapter Dawkins explained aggression through individual independent selfish machines however individuals have relatives in the form of siblings cousins parents etc all of whom share many of the same genes each selfish gene then has its loyalties divided among different individuals the selfish gene is every replica of itself Dawkins explains how a gene selected for kin altruism could survive in the gene pool a gene that suicidally saves five cousins would not be numerous in a population of individuals however if it saved five brothers or ten first cousins would the minimum requirement for a suicidal altruistic gene to be a successful one in the gene pool would have to save more than two siblings children parents more than four half siblings uncles aunts nephews nieces grandparents grandchildren or more than eight first cousins etc

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

this sparkling collection explores the impact of richard dawkins as scientist rationalist and one of the most important thinkers alive today specially commissioned pieces by leading figures in science philosophy literature and the media such as daniel c dennett matt ridley steven pinker philip pullman and the bishop of oxford highlight the breadth and range of dawkins influence on modern science and culture from the gene s eye view of evolution to his energetic engagement in public debates on science rationalism and religion the volume includes personal reminiscences and critical debate as well as accessible discussions of science it provides a stimulating tribute to a remarkable intellectual

summary of the selfish genes has the egocentric gene by richard dawkins been waiting for you on your study list choose the important thing ideas inside the e book with this brief summary over 3 5 billion years ago in a primordial soup of molecules the primary most effective form of life on the planet came to be a molecule able to reproduce itself a replicator molecular replicators are made from lengthy chains of smaller building block molecules in the same manner that a phrase is made up of a string of letters replicators reproduce themselves via attracting different letters and performing as a template for them to fit into the primary replicator routinely had a competitive edge over all the different molecules within the primordial soup because they could not replicate themselves and subsequently the replicators have become more numerous than every other sort of molecule but mistakes inside the copying system led to daughter replicators that had a slightly different configuration than their parent these new configurations supposed that a few daughters had been able to reproduce themselves faster or more

correctly giving them a competitive advantage over their parent an increasing number of replicators have been built from the finite deliver of constructing block molecules within the primordial soup and those molecules were step by step used up those two principles a population in which ability varies and an surroundings of restrained sources are the primary requirements for the system we recognize as evolution as time went on similar mistakes in copying resulted in new high quality traits inclusive of the capacity to interrupt other replicators and use their constructing blocks for replication the primary carnivores through the introduction of latest variations and the survival of the replicators with the maximum beneficial blessings greater complex existence forms emerged in the end ensuing in the type of organisms we see today here is a preview of what you will get a full book summary an analysis fun quizzes quiz answers etc get a copy of this summary and learn about the book

key ideas from the selfish gene richard dawkinsa landmark work in the field of biology and evolution the selfish gene is a landmark 1976 work in the field of biology it puts the gene at the center of the process of evolution and explains how when this is taken into account genes must be seen as selfish author richard dawkins then uses this theory of gene selfishness to explain the massive variety of animal behavior observable on earth who is it for everyone interested in the universe and their place in it any student of biology or anyone with an interest in biologyabout the authorrichard dawkins is an evolutionary biologist and author of influential and popular science books such as the blind watchmaker and the extended phenotype he is also a committed atheist and an active critic of religion to this end publishing his book the god delusion and setting up the richard dawkins foundation for reason and science

our summary is short simple and pragmatic it allows you to have the essential ideas of a big book in less than 30 minutes as you read this summary you will discover that in nature altruism does not exist all living species are genetically selfish you will also discover that your genes have created you for their own survival that your children will be naturally selfish but that you have the means to change that through culture that in terms of reproduction the male is less involved than the female that since the appearance of modern man genetic evolution is no longer the only type of evolution in the world the selfish gene theory is another facet of darwin s theory rather than focusing on the individual organism it takes the point of view of genetics your genes survived in a world where competition was raging so the predominant quality in a gene that thrived is

certainly ruthless selfishness a selfishness that inevitably affects individual behavior but by understanding what your genes are tending towards selfishness you may have a chance to counteract them and achieve what no other species has ever achieved becoming an altruistic individual are you ready to regain control of your identity buy now the summary of this book for the modest price of a cup of coffee

revision of selfish gene 2006 30th anniversary ed including two key chapters from the extended phenotype

the times best science book of 2024 guardian best ideas books of 2024 economist best books of 2024 financial times best books of 2024 from one of the world's great science writers a book that explores the deepest principles of evolutionary history in this groundbreaking new approach to the evolution of all life richard dawkins shows how the body behaviour and genes of every living creature can be read as a book an archive of the worlds of its ancestors a perfectly camouflaged desert lizard has a desiccated landscape of sand and stones painted on its back its skin can be read as a description of ancient deserts in which its ancestors survived and before that of the worlds of its more remote ancestors a genetic book of the dead but such descriptions are more than skin deep the fine chisels of darwinian natural selection carve their way through the very warp and woof of the body into every biochemical nook and corner into every cell of every living creature a zoologist of the future presented with a hitherto unknown animal will be able to reconstruct the worlds that shaped its ancestors to read its unique book of the dead the book is filled with fascinating examples of the power of darwinian natural selection to build exquisite perfection paradoxically accompanied by what look like gross blunders along the way dawkins dismantles influential criticisms of the gene's eye view of life and to end with a provocative sting in the tail the author asks there is a sense in which all our own genes can be seen as a gigantic colony of cooperating viruses from the author of the selfish gene and the ancestor's tale comes a revolutionary richly illustrated book that unlocks the door to an ancient past seen through wholly new eyes

summary of the selfish gene in his book the selfish gene dawkins argues for the gene as the basic unit of evolution he claims that organisms are survival shells for the replicators within us replicators the units that evolve are genes they are inherently selfish in that they only care about their own survival and the survival of their copies as a result no true altruism exists anytime an organism helps another both sets of genes are benefiting dawkins expands his theory to attempt to explain topics like kin altruism eusociality

group dynamics and culture he writes for the scientist looking for a new idea and for the layman just looking to learn more by explaining his theory in a way that appeals to all here is a preview of what you will get a full book summary an analysis fun quizzes quiz answers etc get a copy of this summary and learn about the book

people commonly view evolution as a process of competition between individuals known as survival of the fittest with the individual representing the unit of selection richard dawkins offers a controversial reinterpretation of that idea in the extended phenotype now being reissued to coincide with the publication of the second edition of his highly acclaimed the selfish gene he proposes that we look at evolution as a battle between genes instead of between whole organisms we can then view changes in phenotypes the end products of genes like eye color or leaf shape which are usually considered to increase the fitness of an individual as serving the evolutionary interests of genes dawkins makes a convincing case that considering one s body personality and environment as a field of combat in a kind of arms race between genes fighting to express themselves on a strand of dna can clarify and extend the idea of survival of the fittest this influential and controversial book illuminates the complex world of genetics in an engaging lively manner

new york times bestseller the legendary biologist and bestselling author mounts a timely and passionate defense of science and clear thinking with this career spanning collection of essays including twenty pieces published in the united states for the first time for decades richard dawkins has been a brilliant scientific communicator consistently illuminating the wonders of nature and attacking faulty logic science in the soul brings together forty two essays polemics and paeans all written with dawkins s characteristic erudition remorseless wit and unjaded awe of the natural world though it spans three decades this book couldn t be more timely or more urgent elected officials have opened the floodgates to prejudices that have for half a century been unacceptable or at least undercover in a passionate introduction dawkins calls on us to insist that reason take center stage and that gut feelings even when they don t represent the stirred dark waters of xenophobia misogyny or other blind prejudice should stay out of the voting booth and in the essays themselves newly annotated by the author he investigates a number of issues including the importance of empirical evidence and decries bad science religion in the schools and climate change deniers dawkins has equal ardor for the sacred truth of nature and renders here with typical virtuosity the glories and

complexities of the natural world woven into an exploration of the vastness of geological time for instance is the peculiar history of the giant tortoises and the sea turtles whose journeys between water and land tell us a deeper story about evolution at this moment when so many highly placed people still question the fact of evolution dawkins asks what darwin would make of his own legacy a mixture of exhilaration and exasperation and celebrates science as possessing many of religion's virtues explanation consolation and uplift without its detriments of superstition and prejudice in a world grown irrational and hostile to facts science in the soul is an essential collection by an indispensable author praise for science in the soul compelling rendered in gloriously spiky and opinionated prose dawkins is one of the great science popularizers of the last half century the christian science monitor dawkins is a ferocious polemicist a defender of reason and enemy of superstition john horgan scientific american

published to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the selfish gene this sparkling collection explores the impact of richard dawkins as scientist rationalist and one of the most important thinkers alive today leading figures from science philosophy literature and the media reflect on the breadth and range of dawkins contributions to science and public debate from evolutionary theory and artificial life to rationalism and ethics published to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the selfish gene this sparkling collection explores the impact of richard dawkins as scientist rationalist and one of the most important thinkers alive today specially commissioned pieces by leading figures in science philosophy literature and the media such as daniel c dennett matt ridley steven pinker philip pullman and the bishop of oxford highlight the breadth and range of dawkins influence on modern science and culture from the gene's eye view of evolution to his energetic engagement in public debates on science rationalism and religion this volume which includes personal reminiscences and critical debate as well as accessible discussions of science is a stimulating tribute to a remarkable intellectual written by some of the finest writers and scientists working today an interesting series of essays philip hensher the spectator a sparkling collection prospect this book presents a vivid picture of how one man by force of rigorous analysis and clear writing taught a generation of biologists how to think about evolution new york times while such festschriften are usually deadly dull designed to flatter rather than enlighten this is a delightful exception containing a number of thought provoking essays that go beyond mere appreciation of dawkins's book jerry a coyne times literary supplement

a fully updated new edition of a critically acclaimed examination of the theories and writings of richard dawkins by a world renowned expert on the relation of science and religion includes in depth analysis of dawkins landmark treatise the god delusion 2006 as well as coverage of his later popular works the magic of reality 2011 and the greatest show on earth 2011 and a new chapter on dawkins as a popularizer of science tackles dawkins hostile and controversial views on religion and examine the religious implications of his scientific ideas including a comprehensive investigation of the selfish gene written in an accessible and engaging style that will appeal to anyone interested in better understanding the interplay between science and religion

the biologist richard dawkins is renowned for his theory of the selfish gene but what does this theory really say and why do so many people object to it

the selfish gene by richard dawkins book summary readtrepreneur disclaimer this is not the original book but an unofficial summary an entirely different approach to one of the most controversial theories in the world the selfish gene is a reformulation of the theory of natural selection developed by charles darwin this classic is focused on the nature of altruism and selfishness that creatures have despite that any living creature is focused on his well being the study reveals that they have a natural sense of altruism as well many creatures have a tendency of sacrificing themselves for their loved ones safety note this summary is wholly written and published by readtrepreneur it is not affiliated with the original author in any way any altruistic system is inherently unstable because it is open to abuse by selfish individuals ready to exploit it richard dawkins richard dawkins title is an interesting look into the nature of living creatures an incredibly complex topic developed perfectly so any person interested in reading it can enjoy and learn a lot from the book richard dawkins reveals many things we didn t know about charles darwin s natural selection theory p s the selfish gene is an extremely informative book which will teach you a lot about the most primal side of any living creature the time for thinking is over time for action scroll up now and click on the buy now with 1 click button to grab your copy right away why choose us readtrepreneur highest quality summaries delivers amazing knowledge awesome refresher clear and concise disclaimer once again this book is meant for a great companionship of the original book or to simply get the gist of the original book

in this hugely entertaining sequel to the new york times bestselling memoir an appetite for wonder richard dawkins delves deeply into his intellectual life spent kick starting new

conversations about science culture and religion and writing yet another of the most audacious and widely read books of the twentieth century the god delusion called one of the best nonfiction writers alive today stephen pinker and a prize fighter nature richard dawkins cheerfully mischievously looks back on a lifetime of tireless intellectual adventure and engagement exploring the halls of intellectual inquiry and stardom he encountered after the publication of his seminal work the selfish gene affectionately lampooning the world of academia publishing and television and studding the pages with funny stories about the great men and women he s known dawkins offers a candid look at the events and ideas that encouraged him to shift his attention to the intersection of culture religion and science he also invites the reader to look more closely at the brilliant succession of ten influential books that grew naturally out of his busy life highlighting the ideas that connect them and excavating their origins on the publication of his tenth book the smash hit the god delusion a resounding trumpet blast for truth matt ridley richard dawkins was catapulted from mere intellectual stardom into a circle of celebrity thinkers dubbed the new atheists including christopher hitchens sam harris and daniel dennett throughout a brief candle in the dark dawkins shares with us his infectious sense of wonder at the natural world his enjoyment of the absurdities of human interaction and his bracing awareness of life s brevity all of which have made a deep imprint on our culture

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