

"One of the first and likely to be the most comprehensive in scope of the many books occasioned by the 2009 sesquicentennial of Darwin's *Origin*."

—Edward O. Wilson

FROM THE EDITORS' INTRODUCTION

This book presents evolutionary science as a modern, dynamic discipline and allows the reader to explore evolution according to his or her interests and background. The reader who wishes to be immersed in the science can focus on the major scientific themes, while the reader who is interested in the intellectual history and influence of the subject away from science can enter through a separate set of essays. A reader interested in very specific topics or historical figures can find the appropriate entries, along with essays on related topics. Our goal was to provide an exciting and compelling introduction to evolution along with a basic reference work that could point the way toward a deeper study of individual issues. The essays include bibliographies, which serve as guides to further and deeper reading. The essays in this book show not only how far we have come but where the scientific horizons lie and how we might move toward those horizons.

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