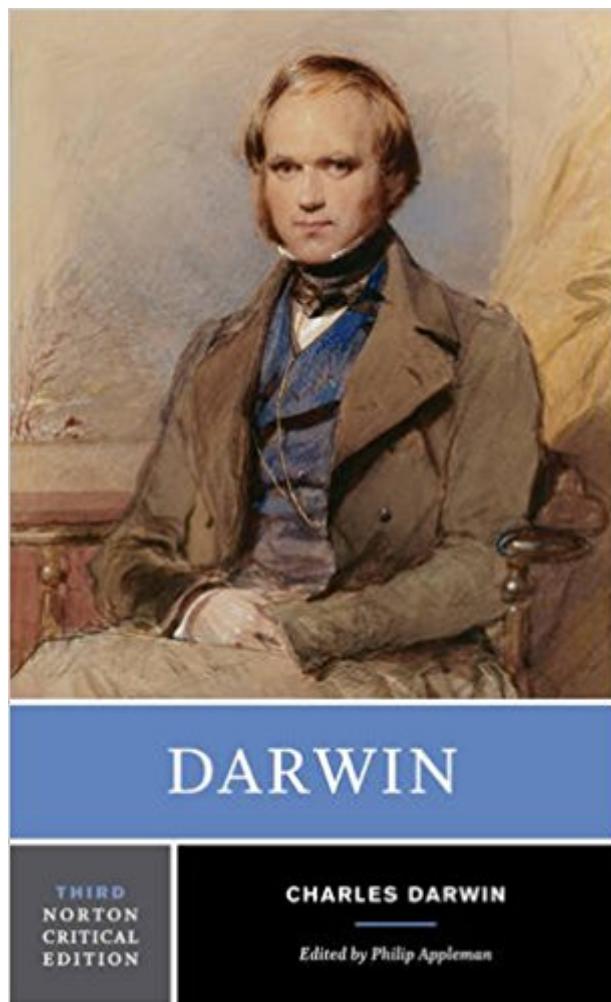


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# Darwin (Norton Critical Editions) (3rd Edition)



## Synopsis

"The best Darwin anthology on the market" (Stephen Jay Gould, Harvard) has just become better, in this newly revised version of the now classic Norton Critical Edition, first published in 1970. The impact of Charles Darwin's work on Western civilization has been broad and deep. As much as anyone in the modern era, he changed human thought, and his influence is still felt in virtually all aspects of our lives. This new edition, larger and more varied than the previous ones, includes more of Darwin's own work and also presents the most recent research and scholarship on all aspects of Darwin's legacy. The biological sciences, as well as social thought, philosophy, ethics, religion, and literature, have all been shaped and reshaped by evolutionary concepts. Excerpts from the most important books and articles of recent years confirm this Darwinian heritage. New work by Richard Dawkins, Edward O. Wilson, Kevin Padian, Eugene C. Scott, Steven Pinker, Daniel Dennett, Michael Ruse, Frans de Waal, Noretta Koertge, George C. Williams, George Levine, Stephen Jay Gould, Gillian Beer, Ernst Mayr, and many others illuminates this exciting intellectual history. A wide-ranging new introduction by the editor provides context and coherence to this rich body of engaging material, much of which will be shaping human thought well into the new century. This edition will be useful to scientists and historians alike: "The Norton Darwin explains Darwinian evolution and illustrates the social and intellectual conflicts of the past two centuries better than any other book that I am aware of." (Charles Taylor, Professor of Biology, Ecology, and Evolution, University of California, Los Angeles) And it will be of great value to the humanities and social sciences as well: "The edition provides the sharpest and most exciting access to Darwin we have ever had. It shows all of us interested in the heart of our intellectual heritage how that heritage is sustained, manipulated, and honored." (James R. Kincaid, Aerol Arnold Professor of English, University of Southern California) A Selected Bibliography and an Index are included.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Naturalist Charles Darwin (1809-1882) is the father of evolution. His groundbreaking *The Origin of Species* argued that all species of life have descended over time from common ancestors, and proposed the scientific theory that this branching pattern of evolution resulted from a process that he called natural selection. As much as anyone in the modern era, Darwin has changed the course of human thought. Philip Appleman is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Indiana University, where he was a founding editor of *Victorian Studies*. He is the author of a book on overpopulation, *The Silent Explosion* and coeditor of *1859: Entering an Age of Crisis*. He has also published three novels and several volumes of poetry.

I can't think of a better anthology; end of story. Though very knowledgeable about the sciences, I knew very little or nothing about Darwin. That completely changed with the reading of this strategically compiled work. Appleman brilliantly selects apposite portions of Darwin's original texts, texts that served as influences upon Darwin, and excerpts from many of the major, relevant Darwinian authors of the twentieth century. The flow and structure of this book is incredible, moving almost seamlessly from one author's work to the next; there really is a forged continuity, which eliminates the aspect of distraction that can be found in other anthologies. Appleman does a particular kind of justice to Darwin, which too often gets ignored, namely, the literary contribution made by Darwin, as well as a look at Darwin's literary interests. This makes Appleman the right scholar for this compilation. On top of this, I feel that Appleman provides the necessary philosophical excerpts, especially on ethics. Appleman is able to achieve this, without making the volume awkward by having a conceptual and historical development, as the book proceeds. I guarantee that, if you are a neophyte to Darwin's work or someone who wants to get a potent taste, without reading more than one book, Appleman's collection is the ticket.

I actually bought this book for my class. Natural selection is the idea that shaped a science and altered our understanding of life. It is also, unfortunately and too often, misunderstood and/or used to justify moral beliefs. This book, edited admirably by Philip Appleman serves two purposes. First,

the reader is given Darwin's idea of evolution and the context in which it developed, from the scientific environment before the publication of "The Origin of Species" to selections from Darwin's various works. Second, there are a number of excerpts that show how natural selection influenced later thought. This includes not just the fields of science and theology, but also sociology, philosophy, and literature. It can be difficult to just sit and read Darwin if you are not a biologist because it seems a little dated and obvious (at least if you are familiar with natural selection, as you should be). Additional material provides perspective and helps to see in what ways Darwin's work was revolutionary. Such material can also show how evolutionary ideas have been modified over time by different people. Appleman has obviously read widely on Darwin and evolution, and the readings he provides represents an array of influential and important works. With this book, a person can develop a much deeper appreciation of Darwin's ideas than from simply reading Darwin alone. I am reviewing the second edition. The third edition is 100 pages longer and includes more recent material, especially concerning the dispute between creationism and evolution. I would not hesitate to recommend even the dated second edition to anyone interested in Darwin and Darwin's influence on scientists and other thinkers; this third edition should be a must-have.

Got it for school, kept it as a resource. Appropriately includes many essays from theologians, natural philosophers, and geologists of the time period to help put Darwin's text in context. As always, these compilations are best paired with instruction, but it did the job it needed to do. The pages are wafer thin - I believe this might be a pattern for Norton Anthologies - but it handled pencil annotations just fine. Looks not only into the voice of Darwin at the time of some of his publications (I don't believe his autobiography/journal is anywhere in here) but provides a good, contextual grasp of how 19th century science was handled in the European West. As a result, you will find commentary here and there regarding Western Christendom.

Good overview of some of Darwin's works as well as excerpts from other writers (critics, supporters, and writers of other evolutionary theories). Depending on which edition you get of this book, it seems that the excerpts are different so that while the main parts remain, the details are different.

This is as good a collection on Darwin as you can find for the price. Key sections of the major works are here, with a great many excerpts from various works on all aspects of Darwin and Darwinism,

It's an interesting book.

I received the book quickly. While Darwin can be dry, Appleman uses essays from the 1800s to explain where Darwin sits in the struggle to understand evolution. Additionally, there are selections from Darwin's books and how his ideas translate into the 1900s.

Thank you so much!!the item that i ordered has come in a really nice conditionthat i expected.thanks again.

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