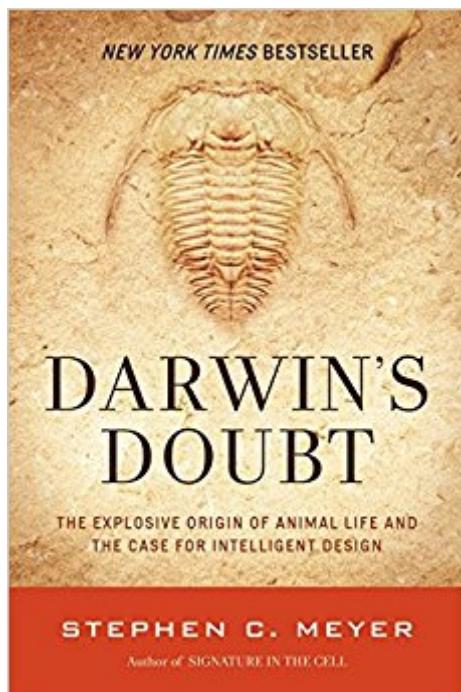


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# Darwin's Doubt: The Explosive Origin Of Animal Life And The Case For Intelligent Design



## Synopsis

When Charles Darwin finished *The Origin of Species*, he thought that he had explained every clue, but one. Though his theory could explain many facts, Darwin knew that there was a significant event in the history of life that his theory did not explain. During this event, the “Cambrian explosion,” many animals suddenly appeared in the fossil record without apparent ancestors in earlier layers of rock. In Darwin’s *Doubt*, Stephen C. Meyer tells the story of the mystery surrounding this explosion of animal life—a mystery that has intensified, not only because the expected ancestors of these animals have not been found, but because scientists have learned more about what it takes to construct an animal. During the last half century, biologists have come to appreciate the central importance of biological information—stored in DNA and elsewhere in cells—to building animal forms. Expanding on the compelling case he presented in his last book, *Signature in the Cell*, Meyer argues that the origin of this information, as well as other mysterious features of the Cambrian event, are best explained by intelligent design, rather than purely undirected evolutionary processes.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“It’s hard for us paleontologists to admit that neo-Darwinian explanations for the Cambrian explosion have failed miserably....Meyer describes the dimensions of the problem with clarity and precision. His book is a game changer.” (Dr. Mark McMenamin, paleontologist at Mt. Holyoke College and coauthor of *The Emergence of Animals*) Darwin’s *Doubt* represents an opportunity for bridge-building rather than dismissive polarization “bridges across cultural divides in

great need of professional, respectful dialogueâ "and bridges to span evolutionary gaps.â • (Dr. George Church, professor of genetics at Harvard Medical School and author of *Regenesis*)â œMeyer writes beautifully. He marshals complex information as well as any writer Iâ ™ve read....a wonderful, most compelling read.â • (Dean Koontz, New York Times bestselling author)â œDarwinâ ™s Doubt is by far the most up-to-date, accurate, and comprehensive review of the evidence from all relevant scientific fields that I have encountered in more than forty years of studying the Cambrian explosion.â • (Dr. Wolf-Ekkehard Lonnig, senior scientist emeritus (biologist) at the Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research)â œMeyer demonstrates, based on cutting-edge molecular biology, why explaining the origin of animals is now not just a problem of missing fossils, but an even greater engineering problem at the molecular level....An excellent book and a must read.â • (Dr. Russell Carlson, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology at the University of Georgia and technical director of the Complex Carbohydrate Research Center)â œDarwinâ ™s Doubt is an intriguing exploration of one of the most remarkable periods in the evolutionary history of life.... No matter what convictions one holds about evolution, Darwinism, or intelligent design, Darwinâ ™s Doubt is a book that should be read, engaged and discussed.â • (Dr. Scott Turner, professor of biology at the State University of New York and author of *The Tinkerer's Accomplice*)â œIt is a tour de forceâ [This book is well informed, carefully researched, upâ "toâ "date and powerfully argued. It confronts Darwinâ ™s doubt and deals with the assumptions of Neoâ "Darwinism. This book is much needed and I recommend it to students of all levels, to professionals and to laypeople.â • (Dr. Norman C. Nevin OBE, BSc, MD, FRCPath, FFPH, FRCPE, FRCP; Professor Emeritus in Medical Genetics, Queen's University, Belfast)â œDarwinâ ™s Doubt is another excellent book by Stephen Meyer. Stephen Meyer has clearly listened to the arguments of those who are sceptical about intelligent design and has addressed them thoroughly. It is really important that Darwinists read this book carefully and give a response.â • (Dr. Stuart Burgess, Professor of Design and Nature, Head of Mechanical Engineering at Bristol University)â œI spend my life reading science books. Iâ ™ve ready many hundreds of them over the years, and in my judgment Darwinâ ™s Doubt is the best science book ever written. It is a magnificent work, a true masterpiece that will be read for hundreds of years.â • (George Gilder Technologist, economist, and New York Times bestselling author George Gilder Technologist, economist, and New York Times bestselling author George Gilder Tec)â œThe issue on the table is the mechanism of evolutionâ "is it blind and undirected or is it under the control of an intelligence with a goal in mind? In Darwinâ ™s Doubt, Stephen Meyer has masterfully laid out one of the most compelling

lines of evidence for the latter.â • (Dr. William S. Harris, Professor, Sanford School of Medicine, University of South Dakota)â œDr. Meyer has written a comprehensive and upâ “toâ “date analysis on the massive scientific evidence revealing the total failure of the neoâ “Darwinian explanation for lifeâ ”s history. Darwinâ ”s Doubt is important, clearly written with sound arguments, excellent illustrations and examples that make the topic easily understandable even for nonâ “specialistsâ • (Dr. Matti Leisola, Professor, Bioprocess Engineering, Aalto University, Finland (emeritus); Editor-in-chief, Bio-Complexity)â œMeyer makes a case for intelligent design as the only viable scientific theory for the origin of biological novelty. Meyerâ ”s challenge to naturalism will no doubt be strongly resisted by those committed to a materialist worldview, but provide food for refection for those who are searching for truth.â • (Dr. Donald L. Ewert, Molecular Biologist, Associate Member (retired), Wistar Institute)â œStephen C. Meyerâ ”s Darwinâ ”s Doubt is a truly remarkable book. Within its 413 pages of text are four tightly woven interrelated arguments. Using 753 references, he presents evidence associated with the serious weaknesses of materialistic theories of biological evolution, and positive evidence for the theory of intelligent design.â • (Dr. Mark C. Biedebach, Professor Emeritus, Department of Biological Sciences, California State University, Long Beach)â œA great book on the origin of animal life and crises of Darwin evolution; very clear, factual, comprehensive, logical, and informative. An enjoyable reading for both nonâ “expert and expert.â • (Dr. Change Tan, Molecular biologist/developmental biologist, Associate Professor, University of Missouri-Columbia)Steven Meyer gives an insightful and thoughtful treatment to the history of life. Justice Louis Brandies taught us that, â ^Sunlight is the best disinfectant,â ” and Dr. Meyer lets the sun shine in. (Dr. Stephen A. Batzer P.E., forensic engineer Dr. Stephen A. Batzer, P.E., forensic engineer)â œSteve Meyerâ ”s book is a muchâ “anticipated bombshell that details the swarm of problems of Darwinian evolution and also presents the case for intelligent design. Ask yourself: how often does a book of this kind receive a warm welcome from leading geneticists and paleontologists? Never, until now! â • (Dr. Tom Woodward, Research Professor, Trinity College, Tampa Bay, Author of Darwin Strikes Back: Defending the Science of Intelligent Design)â œStephen C. Meyer is brilliant and his latest book, Darwinâ ”s Doubt is a must read.â • (David Limbaugh, Syndicated columnist and author)â œStephen Meyerâ ”s new book, Darwinâ ”s Doubt, is a fascinating and rigorous study demonstrating not only that biologists and paleontologists do not have an adequate explanation for the Cambrian Explosion, but that there is an alternative view that makes more sense.â • (Dr. Richard Weikart, Professor of History at California State University, Stanislaus; Author of From Darwin to Hitler)â œMeyer is a talented writer with an easygoing voice who has blended interesting history with clear explanations in what may

come to be seen as a classic presentation of this most fundamental of all debates.â • (Terry Scambray, New Oxford Review)

The Evidence That Darwin Could Not ExplainCharles Darwin knew there was a significant event in the history of life that his theory did not explain. In what is known today as the "Cambrian explosion," many animals suddenly appeared in the fossil record 530 million years ago without apparent ancestors in earlier layers of rock. In Darwin's Doubt, Stephen C. Meyer tells the story of the mystery surrounding this explosion of animal life and makes a compelling case for the theory of intelligent design as the best explanation for the origin of the Cambrian animals and the biological information necessary to produce them. With a new epilogue responding to critics

Great

This is a must read for both scientific and theological types. It is a very comprehensive presentation of an oft-times controversial subject.

Excellent!

Boring for a layman - repetitive and filled with studies not pertinent to the main story. Good text however.

Have not finished yet ... however, meets all my expectations ... includes new finds that might make Darwin change his mind on many things.

The best book I've read in years on the subject. I've always wanted to see a book by someone as knowledgeable as Meyer present the ID argument in the context of a review of up to date, main stream scientific literature. Meyer does a great job of presenting recent evolutionary studies and theories pertaining to a wide range of scientific disciplines, picks each apart and makes the argument as to why he thinks ID offers a better explanation of the evidence. I learned a lot about modern theories, methods and science in general reading this book. I would recommend it to any truth seeking person regardless of what side of the debate they are currently on. This second edition also includes Meyer's response to some criticisms received from evolutionary proponents after the first printing, which are equally insightful.

I am reading it--seems interesting.

The Cambrian crap was fascinating enough (Darwin's tree-construct is inverted when turning to paleontology), but what I think more valuable is the one or two short assessments Meyer makes underlying the entire series of debates. These would include (1) the impossibility of speaking of "science" (one can only speak of sciences), and the huge range of differences in method in the fields of "science"; (2) the nature of argumentation and interpretation of evidence. These are the important arguments that the specialists ("scientists") refuse to hear because, well, no one is technically supposed to be talking about those things because they are assumptions that are (supposedly) taken care of, and the only person qualified to speak on those issues is the philosopher of science - which Meyer is. So if scientists truly value specialization, then they will hear Meyer out on these things (as well as Kuhn in his *Structures!*) and feel free to disregard everything else if they so choose. If that much is conceded, the picture might still change a bit, and the triumphalist, typically modern and optimistic/naive approach would fade away and actually allow contemporary Darwinism to be falsifiable again. Until then, I suppose we celebrate another "Darwin Day" and burn incense at the altar of the infallible academy.

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