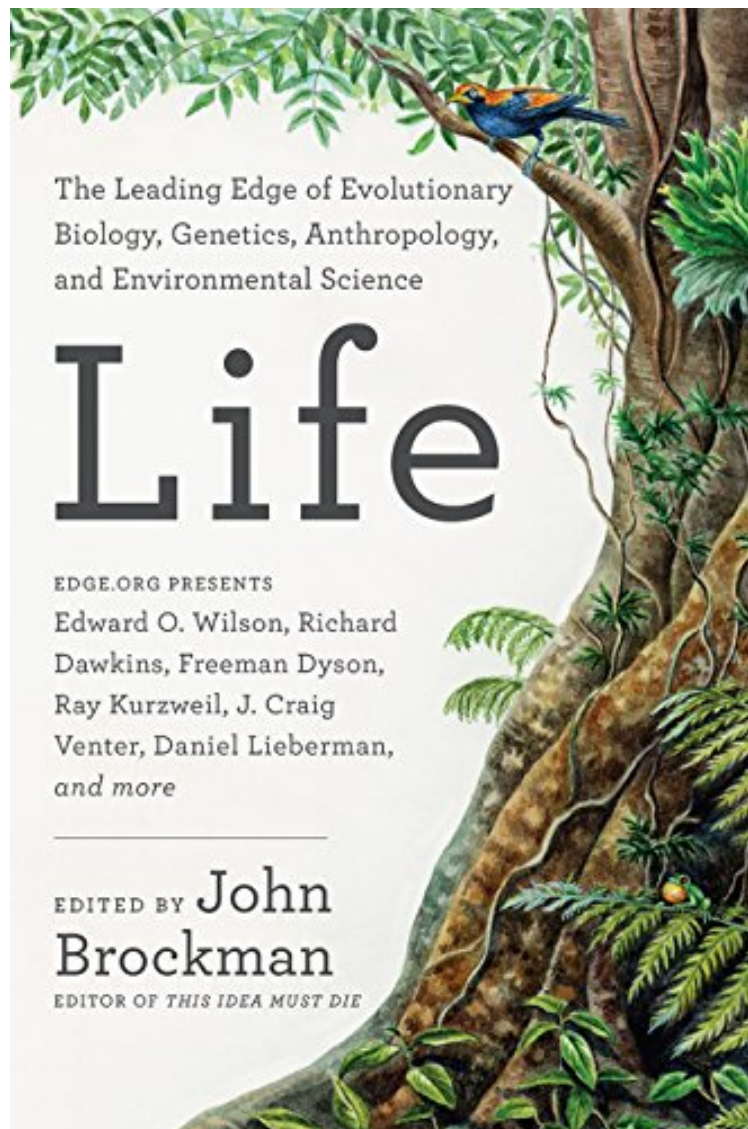


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# Life: The Leading Edge of Evolutionary Biology, Genetics, Anthropology, and Environmental Science

John Brockman

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**John Brockman : Life: The Leading Edge of Evolutionary Biology, Genetics, Anthropology, and Environmental Science** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Life: The Leading Edge of Evolutionary Biology, Genetics, Anthropology, and Environmental Science:

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The newest addition to John Brockmans Edge.org series explores life itself, bringing together the worlds leading biologists, geneticists, and evolutionary theoristsincluding Richard Dawkins, Edward O. Wilson, J. Craig Venter, and Freeman Dyson.Scientists understanding of life is progressing more rapidly than at any point in human history, from the extraordinary decoding of DNA to the controversial emergence of biotechnology. Featuring pioneering biologists, geneticists, physicists, and science writers, Life explains just how far weve comeand takes a brilliantly educated guess at where were heading.Richard Dawkins and J. Craig Venter compare genes to digital information, and sketch the frontiers of genomic research.Edward O. Wilson reveals what ants can teach us about building a superorganismand, in turn, about how cells build an organism. Elsewhere, David Haig reports new findings on how mothers and fathers individually influence the human genome, while Kary Mullis covers cutting edge treatments for dangerous viruses. And theres much more in this fascinating volume.We may never have all the answers. But the thinkers collected in Life are asking questions that will keep us dreaming for generations.

"This far-reaching but accessible material is presented by a scintillating trio of voices who will make listeners feel they're in the presence of the great minds of science themselves." ---AudioFileFrom the Back CoverSciences understanding of life is progressing more rapidly than at any point in human history. Ranging from the origin of life to the evolution of beauty, from the secrets of genes to the surprising science of superorganisms, from the promise of biotechnology to the rising threat of lethal viruses, Life, edited by John Brockman and Edge.org (the worlds smartest website The Guardian), presents original ideas from the horizons of biology, genetics, evolutionary theory, and beyond.Pulitzer Prize winner EDWARD O. WILSON reveals what ants can teach us about building a superorganismand, in turn, about how cells build an organism \* Harvard Universitys DANIEL LIEBERMAN reports on long-distance running and the evolution of the human body \* The Selfish Gene author RICHARD DAWKINS and genetics pioneer J. CRAIG VENTER compare genes to digital information, and sketch the frontiers of genomic research \* Yale evolutionary ornithologist RICHARD PRUM explains what bird mating rituals can teach us about the evolution of aesthetic beauty \* Nobel Prizewinning chemist KARY MULLIS covers cutting-edge immune treatments for dangerous viruses \* DAVID HAIG, professor of biology at Harvard, reports new findings on genomic imprinting: how inherited genes can be expressed differently depending on whether they come from the mother or father \*

Princeton physicist FREEMAN DYSON explores whether the biological processes of life are analog or digital \*  
Stanford professor of bioengineering DREW ENDY asks how we can make living organisms easier to engineer, and  
whether we should \* Futurist and author of *The Singularity Is Near* RAY KURZWEIL describes new biotechnologies  
that have the potential to greatly expand the human life span . . . and more. About the Author The publisher of the  
online science salon Edge.org, John Brockman is the editor of *Know This*, *This Idea Must Die*, *This Explains  
Everything*, *This Will Make You Smarter*, and other volumes.