



# Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species: A Graphic Adaptation

*Michael Keller , Nicolle Rager Fuller (Illustrator)*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

# Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species: A Graphic Adaptation

*Michael Keller , Nicolle Rager Fuller (Illustrator)*

**Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species: A Graphic Adaptation** Michael Keller , Nicolle Rager Fuller (Illustrator)

A stunning graphic adaptation of one of the most famous, contested, and important books of all time.

Few books have been as controversial or as historically significant as Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favored Races in the Struggle for Life*. Since the moment it was released on November 24, 1859, Darwin's masterwork has been heralded for changing the course of science and condemned for its implied challenges to religion.

In Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*, author Michael Keller and illustrator Nicolle Rager Fuller introduce a new generation of readers to the original text. Including sections about his pioneering research, the book's initial public reception, his correspondence with other leading scientists, as well as the most recent breakthroughs in evolutionary theory, this riveting, beautifully rendered adaptation breathes new life into Darwin's seminal and still polarizing work.

## Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species: A Graphic Adaptation Details

Date : Published October 27th 2009 by Rodale Books (first published January 1st 2009)

ISBN : 9781605299488

Author : Michael Keller , Nicolle Rager Fuller (Illustrator)

Format : Paperback 192 pages

Genre : Science, Nonfiction, Sequential Art, Graphic Novels, History, Comics, Biology, Evolution

 [Download Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species: A Graph ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species: A Gra ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species: A Graphic Adaptation**  
Michael Keller , Nicolle Rager Fuller (Illustrator)

---

# From Reader Review Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species: A Graphic Adaptation for online ebook

## Philip says

I'm with the hoards of other people out there that want to read a classic/controversial book, but find they don't have the time or the will to go about it. So, when I saw the library had picked up the graphic novel edition - and it didn't look cheesy - I thought I'd give it a shot.

I felt a little cheap reading the graphic adaptation, but all of the text was direct language from Darwin's book, or scientific commentary on it. (And the pictures were fantastic...)

I wanted to come away with the feeling that I'd read "Origin of the Species," but I didn't. None of this was particularly new for me either - having taken AP Bio in H.S. and then Bio in college (I never took the AP test...) as well as Philosophy of Science and other such courses.

There was some stuff that it was nice to brush up on, as well as gleaning some new tidbits here and there.

It keeps me asking questions, which I think is good.

---

## Loesje says

Dit boek is een aangename introductie in de evolutieleer, en wat Darwin nu feitelijk dacht.

Ik stelde het op prijs dat aanvullingen vanuit de hedendaagse wetenschap in voetnoten toegevoegd werd.

Ik merk bij mijzelf dat dit boek gecombineerd met wat ik reeds eerder las, een beter beeld geeft van wat de evolutieleer nu eigenlijk inhoudt.

---

## Ganesh Sanal says

I appreciate the effort that was taken with the illustrations. But at the end of the day, a book has to do what a book has to do. It has to convey a message.

Here the message from Michael Keller was too obscure for a newbie in evolutionary theory or Victorian English and was too trivial for an expert. No doubt Charles Darwin was one of the greatest genius of all time. But the century old thesis is too archaic and outdated to get you to turn the pages. I would recommend reading Richard Dawkins instead.

---

## Rick says

I really wasn't sure how to rate this because it's such an unusual entity. I mean a science textbook adapted as a graphic novel? Weird huh? Still it was done rather well. The illustrations themselves aren't the awesome thing in the world, but they added intimacy and spontaneity to the text - which is exactly what they needed to do. Together this becomes an interesting and fascinating book.

---

### **Sangeeta says**

nice summary of the heavy (and difficult to read original) book, gorgeous illustrations. for adults and teens alike.

---

### **rakoonz says**

I really enjoyed reading this graphic novel. It was well drawn, and the subject matter was presented clearly, in easily comprehended pieces. I liked the addition of current species distribution maps for comparison.

---

### **Koen Crolla says**

Rife with inaccuracies, many of them stemming from the attempt by the author to update Origin with new information. A lot of these additions are less than helpful, and a good number are misleading because of the way they are phrased, or flat-out false. The quality of the artwork is less than optimal, though I appreciate how hard it is to find an artist who is good at drawing both humans and the sort of animal and plant illustrations science requires, and who works quickly and consistently enough to provide 190 pages of material.

I also question the utility of Origin itself in teaching children about evolution. Darwin was many things, but an engaging writer was not one of them. Close adherence to the structure of the book while also trying to focus on the important parts of it also means Keller's book often feels haphazard or incoherent.

All in all, a decent effort, but there are better books on evolution to buy for your children. Most, of course, aren't comics, but give your kids some credit. It's not like the fact that this one had illustrations made it much more engaging.

---

### **Kelly Driessen says**

This book was very informative, but pretty hard to read from time to time. That is because of the jargon that was used. Would recommend if you like to read more about the Theory of Evolution and biology (obviously).

The illustrations are phenomonal btw!!

---

### **Charles says**

A stunning achievement. It's difficult to condense Darwin's observations and ideas down to the amount of words available in a graphic format but this book does a wonderful job of it. Great illustrations and careful and precise wording are the order of the day in the work. This is certainly more than just an adaptation of

Darwin's "On the Origin of Species." It footnotes updated information indicating where Darwin was not completely clear on some issues, such as inheritance, and it has a whole section at the end that extends Darwin's ideas to include those in genetics and other areas that, when allied with Darwinian natural selection, serve to create the modern synthesis of Darwinism with genetics. Very well done.

---

### **Leslie says**

With stunning illustrations and excerpts from the Darwin's work, this book explains and simplifies the concepts of natural selection and evolution.

---

### **Kazi says**

How scholarly can a graphic novel be? This one is surprisingly good - though most of its four stars are for the drawings, which are just amazing. Other than that, it is all here - speciation, isolation, genetic drift, natural selection, niche exploitation, sexual selection. My problems with the text are small factual ones:

"From the great Ostrich in Africa to its smaller cousins the rhea and emu in South America."

Forgetting to add "and Australia" is a small oversight and the origins of the emu are mentioned later on. The Tasmanian Tiger is referred to as the Tasmanian wolf, Gregor Mendel is described as Austrian, which is technically true, although he was born and spent most of his life in what is now the Czech Republic (he spent most of his life in an Abbey in my home town, actually). Nevertheless, the book captures Darwin's inner struggle between his life's work as a naturalist and his expected role as a clergyman, further underlined by the fact that he sat on his work for such a long time before publishing. I also like the way it corrects the small meanders in Darwin's theory which have since been explored and refined by others and how it introduces the works of others, both those authors by whose works Darwin was influenced, such as Lyell, Lamarck and Malthus and those who used his work as a basis to build their own theories, such as Gould and Dawkins.

---

### **Radhika Gunawardena says**

A wonderful interpretation of the jist of one of the greatest research publications of all time. It is also 20years since I studied the contents herein at the A/Ls, and this book provided a delightful recap of one of my favourite subjects - Zoology.

I figured that this is the closest I would ever come to reading Darwin's original work. What a good thing I bought this book. I can't wait for my daughter to read it herself.

---

### **Truly says**

Timbunan dari BBW tahun lalu \*program babat timbunan\* Nyaris terlupakan jk tdk sedang butuh referensi. ilustrasinya ciamik punya. Saya lbh menikmati ilustrasi dari.pada kata2 yang tersaji.

---

## **Rick Silva says**

If you were going to make a list of books that would be difficult to do a graphic novel adaptation of, Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*, would be an excellent candidate for that list.

So some serious degree-of-difficulty points for Michael Keller for making the attempt.

I was not surprised to find the results were a mixed bag. Darwin relies heavily on sheer volume of evidence to make his case for natural selection as the mechanism for evolution. And while a picture may be worth a thousand words, a limited number of pictures does not, as it turn out, add up to hundreds of detailed lines of evidence.

In spite of the size of Darwin's original work, Keller felt the need to add material. The beginning of this book is essentially a biography of Darwin. The end gives a summary of the major discoveries in the field of evolution since Darwin's time. Both of these segments were among the most enjoyable parts of the graphic novel.

There were many good, creative uses of illustration to show examples and to reinforce points from Darwin's theory. The book has some absolutely beautiful artwork in places, and some of the page-design is excellent. But the visual quality is a bit inconsistent. Some of the drawings worked for me and some did not.

This felt a bit too rambling to be a really good tight synopsis of Darwin's *Theory of Evolution by Natural Selection*, but it struggles to bring to bear the volume of evidence seen in the original work.

That being said, the degree to which it does succeed is impressive considering what it is attempting to accomplish, and it does contain some really beautiful nature illustrations.

---

## **Jill Kenna says**

While this was very interesting and very outside of what I normally read, I did not really enjoy it. I'm not sure this is the type of book that you enjoy for casual reading anyway. That being said I did like the book and learned a lot about Darwin's theory in the process of reading this.

---