



Written in Stone: Evolution, the Fossil Record, and Our Place in Nature

Brian Switek

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""In delightful prose, [Switek] . . . superbly shows that '[i]f we can let go of our conceit,' we will see the preciousness of life in all its forms."—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

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"Elegantly and engagingly crafted, Brian Switek's narrative interweaves stories and characters not often encountered in books on paleontology—at once a unique, informative and entertaining read."—Niles Eldredge

"If you want to read one book to get up to speed on evolution, read *Written in Stone*. Brian Switek's clear and compelling book is full of fascinating stories about how scientists have read the fossil record to trace the evolution of life on Earth."—Ann Gibbons

"[Switek's] accounts of dinosaurs, birds, whales, and our own primate ancestors are not just fascinating for their rich historical detail, but also for their up-to-date reporting on paleontology's latest discoveries."—Carl Zimmer

"After reading this book, you will have a totally new context in which to interpret the evolutionary history of amphibians, mammals, whales, elephants, horses, and especially humans."—Donald R. Prothero

Spectacular fossil finds make today's headlines; new technology unlocks secrets of skeletons unearthed a hundred years ago. Still, evolution is often poorly represented by the media and misunderstood by the public. A potent antidote to pseudoscience, *Written in Stone* is an engrossing history of evolutionary discovery for anyone who has marveled at the variety and richness of life.



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