

Earth



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By Robert Wright

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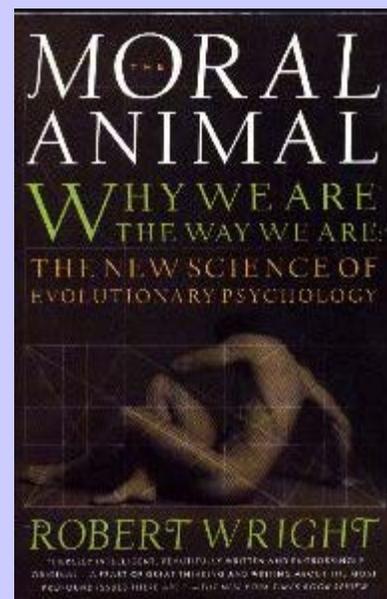
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Vintage Books

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## Information from the Publisher

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### Publisher's Synopsis

Are men literally born to cheat? Does monogamy actually serve women's interests? These are among the questions that have made *The Moral Animal* one of the most provocative science books in recent years. Wright unveils the genetic strategies behind everything from our sexual preferences to our office politics--as well as their implications for our moral codes and public policies. Illustrations.

Synopsis: A study on evolutionary psychology implements Darwinian theory that identifies the inherent nature of such areas as human sexuality, sibling rivalry, self-esteem, friendship, and more.

### From the Book Cover

"A brilliant and troubling attempt to look into who we really are....Wright's book constantly goads the reader to introspection, to fresh perspectives about one's choices and place in society.... A subtle and stimulating interpretation that deserves wide debate."

-- *Boston Globe*

Is monogamy natural for men? For women? Where does sibling rivalry come from? Why do parents favor some children over others? What evolutionary advantages might come from having low self-esteem? What are the biological roots of self-deception? These are among the questions that have made *The Moral Animal* one of the most provocative science books in recent years, as well as one of the most genuinely important.

As he presents the latest findings in the emerging field of evolutionary psychology -- which views human behavior in light of Darwinian theory -- Robert Wright unveils the unconscious strategies that shape our romantic choices, familial feelings, friendships, and office politics. And on a deeper level, this book compels us to rethink our most basic moral assumptions, with lasting implications for our public policy as well as for our intimate daily actions.

"This clever and stimulating- book is destined to become a classic.... Like Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* and Richard Dawkins's *The Selfish Gene*, it could well change the way people think and feel about their lives--perhaps even how they behave...The book is packed with insight into many current dilemmas. It is, into the bargain, an intellectual entertainment argued with wit and style."

-- *The Economist*

CHOSEN BY THE NEW YORK TIMES AS ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR

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## About the Author

Robert Wright is a senior editor at *The New Republic* and is coauthor of its TRB column. He has also written for *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The New Yorker*, and *Time*. He previously worked at *The Sciences* magazine, where his writings on science, technology, and philosophy won the National Magazine Award for Essay and Criticism. His first book, *Three Scientists and Their Gods: Looking for Meaning in an Age of Information*, was nominated for a National Book Critics Circle Award. He lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife and two daughters.

-- From the Publisher

## Promotional Material from the Publisher

Acclaim for Robert Wright's

## THE MORAL ANIMAL

"A feast of great thinking and writing about the most profound issues there are, and a treat for any thinking person.... Lucidly explains our understanding of the evolution of human moral sentiments and draws out provocative implications for sexual, family, office and societal politics.... Mr. Wright writes with a consistent, irreverent wit that does not hide a heartfelt seriousness of purpose."

-- --Steven Pinker, *The New York Times Book Review*

"The new field of evolutionary psychology—which seeks to explain human behavior, thought and emotions in terms of Darwinian evolution—finds its most articulate exponent in Robert Wright. In attempting to unravel the evolutionary logic behind friendship, romance, xenophobia, racism, sibling rivalry, and so forth, Wright leavens his presentation with wit and humor, interlacing a biographical profile of Charles Darwin, whose marriage, sex life, personal tragedies and travels in turn are thrust in a neo-Darwinian light.... The most sophisticated in-depth exploration to date of the new Darwinian thinking."

-- *Publishers Weekly*

"Lively, engaging, and well-informed."

-- *Wall Street Journal*

"An eye-opening, thought-provoking, spine-tingling, mind-boggling, wish-I-had-thought-of-that sort of science book."

-- Matt Ridley, *Times Literary Supplement* (London)

"An engrossing guide, written with wit and an eye to inducting the ignorant into evolutionary psychology."

-- *The Guardian* (London)

"Lucid and compelling."

-- *Los Angeles Times*

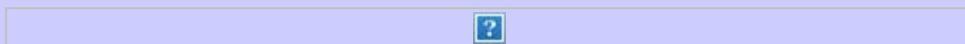
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