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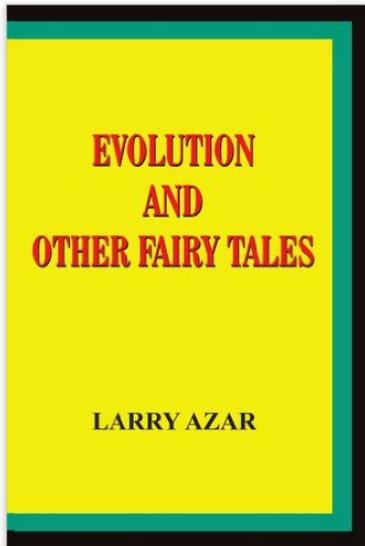
EVOLUTION AND OTHER FAIRY TALES

by Larry Azar (Author)



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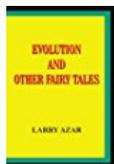
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About the Author

Professor Emeritus Larry Azar received undergraduate and graduate degrees in Math, Physics, and Philosophy from Boston College and a Doctorate in Philosophy from the Pontifical Institute of the University of Toronto where he studied with Étienne Gilson, Anton Pegis, and Armand Maurer. He has taught at Fordham, Lehman, Hunter, St. John's and Iona and also served as assistant to Jacques Maritain at Princeton. Numerous articles by him have appeared in journals both national and international. The present volume is Dr. Azar's sixth book, his previous works include: *Twentieth Century in Crisis: Foundations of Totalitarianism*, and *Man: Computer, Ape, or Angel*.

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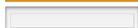
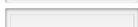
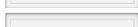


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 **AMAZING BOOK! MUST READ! MISLEADING TITLE!**

By [James Bell](#) on December 12, 2013

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The title is very audacious and misleading. In fact, I think it markets to the wrong audience.

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Typically, a person interested in buying a book called "Evolution and Other Fairy Tales" would be a Creationist -- likely a Young Earth Creationist. Since that viewpoint is heavily concentrated among White Evangelicals (55% according to Pew Research), I think the title of the book appeals to Evangelicals. (I myself am Catholic).

As is well known, Evangelicals have been very aggressive at mounting THEOLOGICAL and SCIENTIFIC challenges to Evolution. Theistic Evolution does not disprove Aristotle or other sound philosophy, so philosophers do not tend to view Evolution as a big issue. So philosophers tend to ignore the theological and scientific debate. Evangelicals and scientists ignore philosophers.

As a result, most Creationists are not interested in philosophical analysis of Darwin. In my view, the title of the book is such that it will seemingly appeal to Creationists who will swiftly discover it was written by a Catholic philosopher and lose interest.

Let me add that I think everyone should read this book. If you are a Creationist, read this book. If you believe in Evolution, read this book. If you are uncertain (like me), read this book.

This book includes over 100 pages of end note citations. Larry Azar has left no stone unturned in allowing the evolutionists to speak for themselves on every conceivable topic.

The wildly uncertain and fiercely contradictory things the evolutionists say about evolution is narrated. Then their various positions are subjected to rigorous Aristotelian logic and analysis. The author is fair. Sometimes, Darwin is being logical and he gives credit to Darwin when that is true. He goes into the public debates between Gould and Dawkins. He delves into Mayr, Simpson, Darwin, and Futuyama, and all of the famous evolutionists. No one escapes rigorous Aristotelian analysis. Every vocal debate between scientists (Evolution vs the Law of Biogenesis; Evolution vs the Second Law of Thermodynamics; Evolutionary handling of the principle of uniformitarianism where they sometimes accept it and sometimes reject it; Evolution vs universality; deductive reasoning vs inductive reasoning; Evolution vs the law of essences Aristotle) is touched on. He always gives credit to scientists (evolutionists or not) when they are logical and philosophically sound. As a result, he is able to mostly allow the scientists to destroy each other.

He is also able to show how the racism of Darwin (The Origin of Species; or the Preservation of the Favored Races is his book title) is not merely the result of cultural bigotry. It is a symptom of an underlying problem that lies at the heart of Evolution. Darwin was never able to define what a species is (as he himself confessed). That is why he thought black people were a totally separate species than white people. His inability to distinguish between accidental traits within a species (like skin color) and a species itself was fatal. To date, no evolutionists has defined what a species is. Without a definition, Evolution bursts at the seams.

Of course, over 2,000 years ago, Aristotle defined what a species is. His definition stands as an eternal rebuke to evolutionists who feared to grapple with the Philosophical Giant of Antiquity.

What emerges is that the separation of science and philosophy (suppression of the University of Paris during the French Revolution in 1793) resulted in scientists who had no philosophical training to ascertain what science IS. They are good at science when they do it. But knowing what science IS is a philosophical endeavor. Often, scientists are doing something totally different (like telling Fairy Tales using inductive reasoning).

With a title like this, Creationists want to discard it because it has to do with philosophy -- a seeming side issue. People uncertain of their position don't want to read it because it sounds too dogmatic. People who believe it is biased skip it. But the title is the result of the conclusion of the author -- not his predispositions.

He uses Aristotle to demolish Darwin, not Genesis.

If you have read this far down on my overly long review, you need to read this book.

I tore through all 458 pages of this scientifically and philosophically dense book in three weeks. My eyes are opened. Yours should be too.

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||| A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE EVOLUTION DEBATE

Dr. Larry Azar's "Evolution and Other Fairy Tales" constitutes a critically important new addition to the evolution debate. [Read more](#)

Published on June 17, 2006 by Dr. Dennis Bonnette

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||| ||| ||| ||| Brilliant and Breath Taking

By [Brian W. Ewert](#) on May 18, 2012

Format: Paperback | [Verified Purchase](#)

Evolution and Other Fairy Tales is an incredible piece of literature. I'm astonished that any man can compile and organize this much information, much less lay it out in such a way that makes it easy to read, easy to understand and captivating enough to bring you back - through all 467 pages. Moving through it section at a time, contemplating and pondering along the way, it took me just over a year to read, and "wow" what an amazing read. The timing couldn't have been better because I had just finished several other books on the same subject, and this was the last one - I'm going to take a break and spend this summer reading "A people's history of the US!". To clear up any assumed bias, let me tell you that I've also read Atheist Universe (Mills), Darwin's Black Box (Behe), The Selfish Gene (Dawkins), Lee Strobel, Hitchens, R.C. Metcalf's Colliding with Christ... one for you string theorists :), End Of Faith (Sam Harris), etc, etc, etc. I'm a religious sort, but if there really is no God than I'm sort of wasting a whole lot of time (and money supporting all those hungry folk in Africa) - but "knowing" is very important to me so I've read it all. Azar's book is by far, hands down the most in depth and comprehensive book on the matter - holy cow its good!!!

While so many of the other authors argue over why evolution can or can not be true, because blood clots via cascading proteins or because the eye is just too remarkable to have evolved, Azar slowly presents, with reason and observable reality in hand (what we know and witness daily by living in this world), a critical philosophical look at Aristotle, Darwin, Hoyle, Futuyama, S.J. Gould (and others) and the theory(ies) that have abounded and continue to spring forth from Science and its Academies. Evolution and Other Fairy Tales is an incredibly expansive and in depth look at evolutionary theory, how it began, the turns it has taken over the decades and where it is today - really remarkable. It's deep without being "heady" like Behe's book - that one only a doctor should read :) and its funny to boot. Azar's wit is great!

Azar doesn't overly argue in favor of an All Powerful Deity or Special Creation which I appreciated. After reading the book though you're not left with much else that's feasible :) It's a MUST for anyone wanting to combat evolutionists (your gonna have so much ammo its ridiculous), any Creationist (especially teachers) should read it, but it would also be an invaluable read for anyone looking for TRUTH... ah yes, and what is truth but a myth of certainty. Azar puts forth the simplest of "ponderances" that left my atheist buddy nothing to say, and not that anyone needs to be "wrong" because we're all on this ride together, right? so lets get along, but have fun along the way. Azar's section on the ESSENCE of man is a pure joy to read and enlightening as well - READ THIS BOOK!! ENJOY!

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||| ||| ||| ||| At long last, a different approach to an old topic

By [Thomas J. Ryan](#) on June 13, 2006

Format: Paperback

Years ago, the late great Fulton Sheen made the startling statement that the rarest thing in the world today is: an argument. "...Because so few are thinking, naturally there are found but a few to argue. Prejudice there is in abundance and sentiment too, for these are things born of enthusiasm without the pain of labor. Thinking on the contrary, is a difficult task ; it is the hardest work man can do-that is perhaps why so few indulge in it. Thought-saving devices have been invented that rival labor-saving devices in their ingenuity. Fine sounding phrases like 'Life is bigger than logic,' or 'Progress is the spirit of the age,' go rattling by us like express trains, carrying with them the burden of those who are too lazy to think for themselves. Not even philosophers argue today; they only explain away. At best, both sides may shoot off firecrackers, creating the illusion of conflict, but it is only a sham battle in which there are no casualties; there are plenty of explosions, but never an exploded argument."

Anyone who has watched shows like Crossfire would have to agree.

For a while, I resisted writing a review of this 616 page tome because I feared my early involvement had prejudiced me. Surely, I thought, someone else would appreciate this unique and accessible book. Perhaps, someone else with more impressive credentials besides being an undergraduate student of the author would step up to the plate. That has yet to happen with the exception of Dr. Richard Rowling who is himself the author of "Digging Up Darwin in Ohio Without Holding Your Nose." But, being a Scholastic himself he must be stuck in the computerless Middle Ages and he has asked that I quote him. I'm honored to do so as it is also the only thing I've seen of its kind written in the 2nd person and he appreciates what was once called "The Queen of the Sciences."

"You were a philosophy professor at a tiny Catholic college. After undergraduate work in math and physics at Boston College, you got a doctorate in philosophy at Toronto's Pontifical Institute. You studied under Gilson, Pegis and Maurer. You even served as Maritain's assistant at Princeton. You are now retired in your late eighties, and quite weak from several heart attacks. You published many articles and five books which were never best sellers.

"Then you dived into evolutionary writings, swam all the way from sea to shining sea, and finally surfaced with this devastating and definitive tome. For over ten years you tried to find a publisher. One friend stirred Cardinal Ratzinger's lively interest in the forthcoming work. If, without an agent, you threw the manuscript over a transom, the major publishers would take forever and then back off. No doubt they sought the counsel of evolutionists! Who else? Catholic houses were afraid because they said 'The pope has accepted evolution.' Protestant houses were afraid because the author was a Catholic.

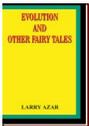
"You produce a truly magisterial deconstruction of Evolutionary theory, research, and scholarship, with over 2,100 citations, mostly from modern scientists, and a 42 page bibliography. You do what Scholastic Philosophers should have done long ago. You truly incarnated your philosophy. You do not just teach philosophy. You used it to evaluate the writings of modern scientists. Result? You make us wonder which is worse, their acuity or their honesty. Regardless, we have been scammed. After Freud and Marx, now it's Darwin, we find. The modern "holy trinity" is passe.

"You offer no alternative to biological evolution. You mostly use evolutionists to utterly destroy each other. Though a Catholic, you barely mention any historical religion. You use philosophy. The Protestant background of most moderns has no room for philosophy between science and religion/theology. Court quarrels and judicial decisions are between 'naturalists' who think I.D. is faith in disguise and 'supernaturalists' who call it science, as if philosophy does not exist. Unruled by philosophy, no wonder science became scientism. And unrestrained by philosophy, theology likewise overreaches. The Western Mind slipped sockets centuries ago.

"You scarcely ever mention I.D. You call on some philosophers at times, but mostly Aristotle. You diagnose early modern science's fractured skull. When it dismissed formal and final causality (structure and function) for the sake of technological utility, that was intellectual self-mutilation. Dizzy spells like Marxist 'science' and Freudian 'science' are no surprise. And evolutionary 'science'? Missing Links resemble extra-terrestrials. S-F is far better.

"No scientist, philosopher, or theologian dare, DARE, miss this treasure trove of wisdom. We have suffered the discomfort of 150 years of Big Foot in Big Mouth. A modest Darwin might be baptizable, but he is not swallowable. Catholic scientists, do not just bark back up at bishops. Come out of the closet for a full scale attack on what has been in history A, if not THE, major source of Communism, Nazism, Militarism, Eugenics, Genocide, Racism, Secularism, Relativism, Sexual License, Human Engineering, and violent crime.

Truth can be born again!"



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