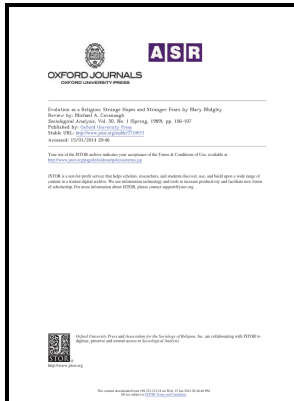


Evolution as a religion - strange hopes and stranger fears

Methuen - Evolution as a Religion: a book review



Description: -

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United States -- Claims

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Evolution -- Philosophy. Evolution as a religion - strange hopes and stranger fears

-Evolution as a religion - strange hopes and stranger fears

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Mary Midgley, Evolution as a Religion: Strange Hopes and Stranger Fears

She is far from being the only scholar to make such criticisms. Midgley argues that they represent bad science, twisted to have characteristics of a religion, such as assigning meaning to life pp. As ever, her argument is flawlessly insightful: a punchy, compelling, lively indictment of these misuses of science.

Evolution as a Religion: a book review

This perspective is very different from that of the evolutionary optimists, but it does share a certain scientist-centric bias.

Mary Midgley, Evolution as a Religion: Strange Hopes and Stranger Fears

In this controversial study, Mary Midgley takes issue with a number of bizarre scientific doctrines which are often mistakenly viewed as part of Darwin's theory and, in particular, draws attention to the dangers inherent in Lamarck's notion of evolution as an escalator designed to exalt the human race indefinitely to supernatural heights. According to a profile in The Guardian, Mary Midgley is 'the foremost scourge of scientific pretensions in this country; someone whose wit is admired even by those who feel she sometimes oversteps the mark'. The reason why people turn to it now seems to be that the only obvious alternative story — evolution — has become linked with a view of human psychology which they rightly think both false and immoral.

Evolution as a religion : strange hopes and stranger fears : Midgley, Mary, 1919

The effort to understand the universe is one of the very few things that lifts human life a little above the level of farce, and gives it some of the grace of tragedy. See also this talk by Midgley, related to a more recent book on a similar topic: In essence, Mary Midgley strongly supports scientists when they do science, but does not always accept the results of scientists doing philosophy and especially moral philosophy.

Robin Attfield, Evolution as Religion: Strange Hopes and Stranger Fears

Evolution as a Religion: Strange Hopes and Stranger Fears by Mary Midgley 1985, revised edition 2002 I recently read the classic by English philosopher.

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