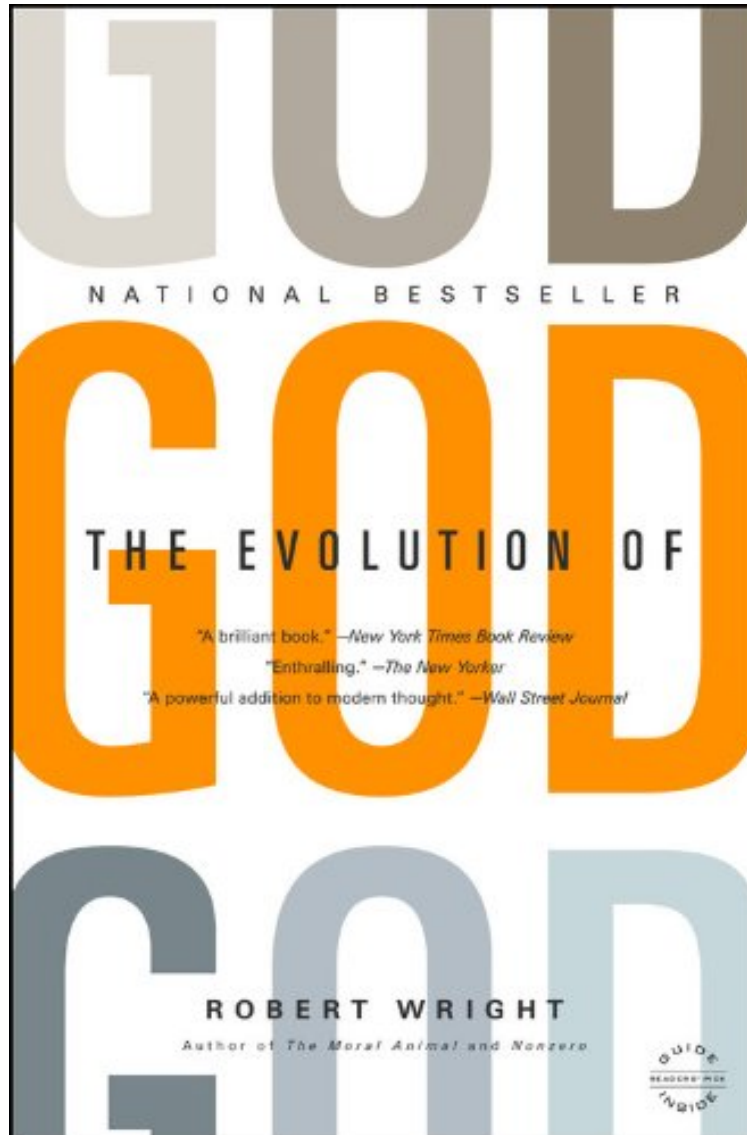


(Free and download) The Evolution of God (Back Bay Readers' Pick)

## The Evolution of God (Back Bay Readers' Pick)

Robert Wright

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#36886 in Books Robert Wright 2010-05-03Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.25 x 1.50 x 5.38l, 1.12 #File Name: 031606744X592 pagesThe Evolution of God | File size: 32.Mb

**Robert Wright : The Evolution of God (Back Bay Readers' Pick)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Evolution of God (Back Bay Readers' Pick):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. You better be very very intelligent to read and anf follow !By KnVERY VERY DEEP0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Rosalie GrahamExcellent overview of how we -- and god -- evolved together over the millennia.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very interesting bookBy LouVery interesting book, vast erudition, but speculative in many if its details. The

challenge is to separate fact from creative story telling.

In this sweeping, dazzling journey through history, Robert Wright unveils a discovery of crucial importance to the present moment: there is a pattern in the evolution Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and a "hidden code" in their scriptures. Through the prisms of archeology, theology, anthropology, and evolutionary psychology, Wright repeatedly overturns conventional wisdom to show how and why religion can strengthen the social order-even in an age of globalization-and explains why modern science is not only compatible with religion, but actively affirms the validity of the religious quest. Vast in scope and thrilling in ambition, *The Evolution of God* brilliantly alters our understanding of God and where He came from-and where He and we are going next.

From Publishers Weekly  
In his illuminating book, *The Moral Animal*, Wright introduced evolutionary psychology and examined the ways that the morality of individuals might be hard-wired by nature rather than influenced by culture. With this book, he expands upon that work, turning now to explore how religion came to define larger and larger groups of people as part of the circle of moral consideration. Using a naive and antiquated approach to the sociology and anthropology of religion, Wright expends far too great an effort covering well-trod territory concerning the development of religions from primitive hunter-gatherer stages to monotheism. He finds in this evolution of religion, however, that the great monotheistic (he calls them Abrahamic, a term not favored by many religion scholars) religions Christianity, Islam, Judaism all contain a code for the salvation of the world. Using game theory, he encourages individuals in these three faiths to embrace a nonzero-sum relationship to other religions, seeing their fortunes as positively correlated and interdependent and then acting with tolerance toward other religions. Regrettably, Wright's lively writing unveils little that is genuinely new or insightful about religion. (June) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.  
From *The New Yorker*  
Straddling popular science, ancient history, and theology, this ambitious work sets out to resolve not only the clash of civilizations between the Judeo-Christian West and the Muslim world but also the clash between science and religion. Tracking the continual transformation of faith from the Stone Age to the Information Age, Wright, a self-described materialist, best known for his work on evolutionary psychology, free trade, and game theory, postulates that religious world views are becoming more open, compassionate, and synthesized. Occasionally, his prescriptions can seem obvious-for instance, that members of the different Abrahamic faiths should think of their religions as having been involved, all along, in the same undertaking. But his core argument, that religion is getting better with each passing aeon, is enthralling. Copyright 2008 Click here to subscribe to *The New Yorker*  
From *Bookmarks Magazine*  
An articulate writer with a spry sense of humor, Wright offers an optimistic vision of the future of humanity. Avoiding any hint of the sermon, Wright's line of reasoning tends to straddle the middle ground of belief, "too open to theism for the [atheists and] too rooted in scientific rationalism for the [fundamentalists]" (*Boston Globe*). A few critics lamented his focus on Western religions and his insistence that monotheism is naturally superior to other types of belief systems, and the *Wall Street Journal* thought he relied too heavily on speculation in his review of prehistoric civilizations. However, despite these objections, all reviewers agreed that Wright's analysis of cultural trends and their effects on our understanding of God are thought-provoking and encouraging.