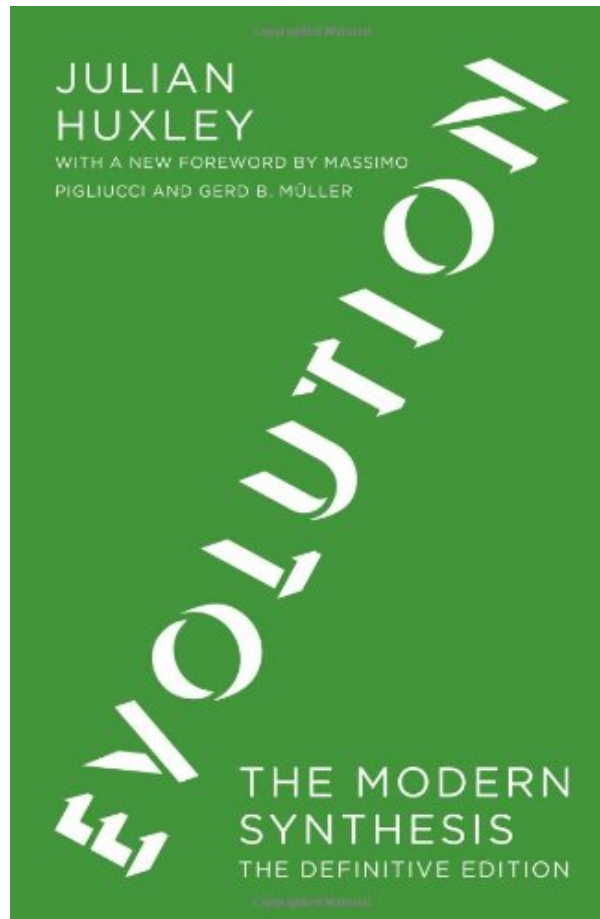
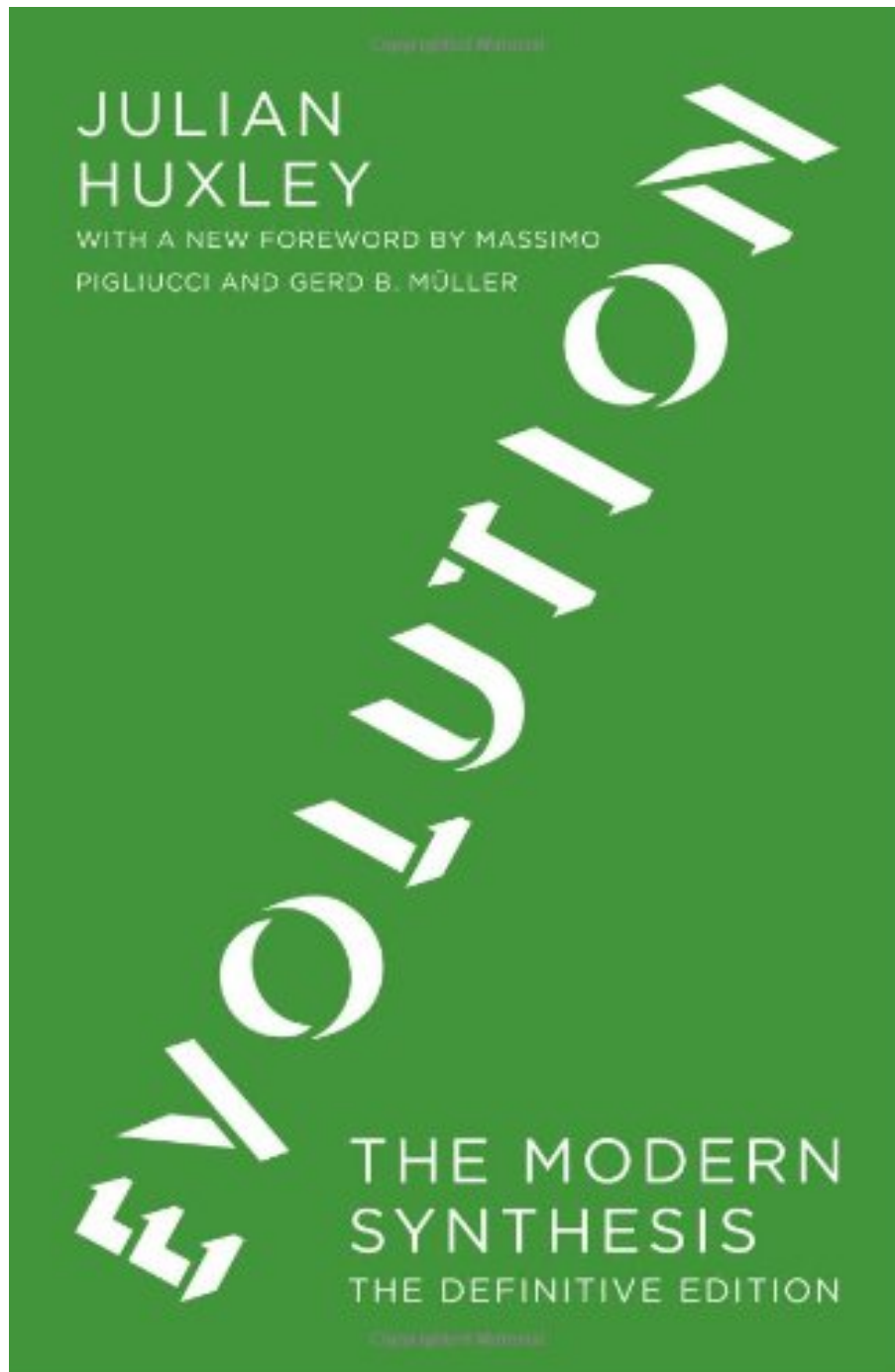


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It is good to have again in print (with a new introduction) Julian Huxley's masterwork, Evolution: The Modern Synthesis. One marvels at the depths of Huxley's insights, one is impressed by the breadth of his scope, and one is charmed and delighted by his gracious prose. Reading this book is like coming again on an old, valued friend or meeting someone who captivates from the first moment.

(Michael Ruse, Lucyle T. Werkmeister Professor of Philosophy, Director of the Program in History and Philosophy of Science, Florida State University)

## About the Author

Massimo Pigliucci is Professor of Philosophy at the City University of New York.

Gerd B. Müller is Professor of Theoretical Biology at the University of Vienna and Chairman of the Konrad Lorenz Institute for Evolution and Cognition Research. He is a coeditor of *Origination of Organismal Form* (MIT Press, 2003) and *Modeling Biology* (MIT Press, 2007).

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This classic work by Julian Huxley, first published in 1942, captured and synthesized all that was then known about evolutionary biology and gave a name to the Modern Synthesis, the conceptual structure underlying the field for most of the twentieth century. Many considered Huxley's book a popularization of the ideas then emerging in evolutionary biology, but in fact *Evolution: The Modern Synthesis* is a work of serious scholarship that is also accessible to the general educated public. It is a book in the intellectual tradition of Charles Darwin and Thomas Henry Huxley--Julian Huxley's grandfather, known for his energetic championing of Darwin's ideas. A contemporary reviewer called *Evolution: The Modern Synthesis* "the outstanding evolutionary treatise of the decade, perhaps the century." This definitive edition brings one of the most important and successful scientific books of the twentieth century back into print. It includes the entire text of the 1942 edition, Huxley's introduction to the 1963 second edition (which demonstrates his continuing command of the field), and the introduction to the 1974 third edition, written by nine experts (many of them Huxley's associates) from different areas of evolutionary biology.

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Huxley states, "By Darwinism I imply that blend of induction and deduction which Darwin was the first to apply to the study of evolution." Concerning Natural Selection, "In a broad sense it covers all cases of differential survival: but from the evolutionary point of view it covers only the differential transmission of inheritable variations."

Huxley's considerable literary style is evident throughout the book: "To continue our metaphor, the offer made by a mutation to the species is not necessarily the final offer."

Huxley is (shades of Teilhard) a believer in evolutionary "progress." Although "All that natural selection can ensure is survival. It does not ensure progress, or maximum advantage," "evolution may perfectly well include progress without being progressive as a whole." And "we are justified in calling the trends which have led to (Man's) development progressive."

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