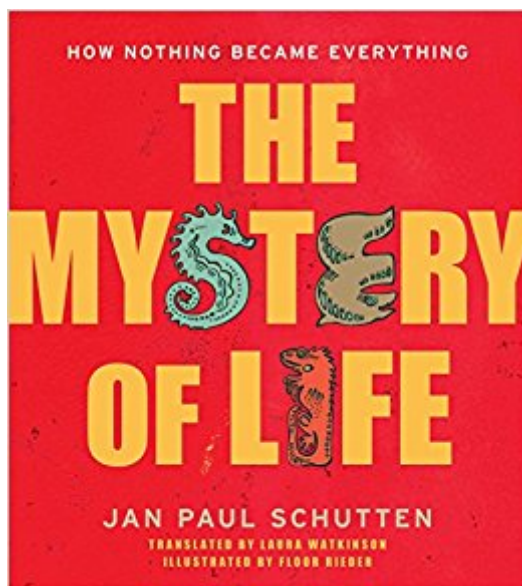


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# The Mystery Of Life: How Nothing Became Everything



## Synopsis

How did nonliving atoms evolve into modern people? Find out in this engaging illustrated exploration of how nothing became everything. The science of evolution is a topic of utmost importance, especially as the focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) education continues to increase. Fortunately, important doesn't have to mean boring. From explaining how scientists discovered how life began on earth to speculating about whether space aliens are carnivores, this engaging investigation of all things evolution is infused with fun as well as facts. Coupled with gorgeous illustrations, curious minds young and old will discover how to build a planet, the truth about DNA, whether trees really want to be tall, how to survive without a butt, and much, much more!

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 5 Up • How old is the Earth, and how was it formed? How did nonliving atoms evolve into single cell organisms and then into the plethora of species that inhabit the Earth today? How did scientists discover the answers to these questions, and how can they provide proof for their theories? Schutten responds to these queries and countless others as he explains the scientific discoveries that led, over time, to the development of theories such as the big bang and evolution. Taking a big picture approach, he puts all the pieces of the puzzle that comprise our complex world into one accessible, entertaining title, using just the right mixture of fun facts, scientific information, and age-appropriate language. Schutten divides his chapters up into subsections that ask specific

questions ("What Are Seashells Doing on Top of a Mountain?") and incorporates complex ideas in his responses. He also peppers his text with interesting tidbits of information. For example, we get goose bumps because our ancestors had fur which, when it stood on end, provided warmth. Schutten is an award-winning author who argues vehemently for evolution but doesn't exclude those who believe in God and creationism; he encourages his readers to think for themselves. Interspersed liberally throughout the text are clear, rather playful illustrations, which add to the lighthearted and humorous tone. VERDICT A great choice for libraries looking to bolster their STEM collection. Ragan O'Malley, Saint Ann's School, Brooklyn, NY

"A lighthearted view of the universe's progress, from the Big Bang to the evolution of bacteria, bonobos and 'Joe Schmo from Buffalo.'...[Schutten's] overall account of life's origins and tenure is as rich in detail as it is entertaining." (Kirkus Reviews)"Taking a big picture approach, he puts all the pieces of the puzzle that comprise our complex world into one accessible, entertaining title, using just the right mixture of fun facts, scientific information, and age-appropriate language....Interspersed liberally throughout the text are clear, rather playful illustrations, which add to the lighthearted and humorous tone. A great choice for libraries looking to bolster their STEM collection." (School Library Journal)

I am reading this to my 7 year old for bed time reading, only trouble is that it doesn't make her sleepy, but I'm OK with that, I hope it gives her curious dreams.

An interesting book for young people, easy to read and understand. Well written.

Great book for kids and adults!

Both my children, ages 9 and 7, loved this book. One of my kids is super curious about science, the other, not so much, but both loved it equally. They quote things they learned here all the time! The author explains science and natural history in a truly engaging, kid friendly, fun way with funny cartoon illustrations. It's really well done. I read several chapters and learned a few, things, too. It's nice looking so it's good as a bday or holiday gift.

The translation into English sounds very awkward. Joe Shmoe from Buffalo? Doesn't even rhyme well. Section titles ask questions that are not answered and have very little to do with the content

below them. The illustrations are too artsy and don't resemble what they are supposed to portray in nature. I wanted my daughter to see what science really looks like and not somebody's interpretation of it. We're almost done reading it and we're still wondering if it will ever get better.

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