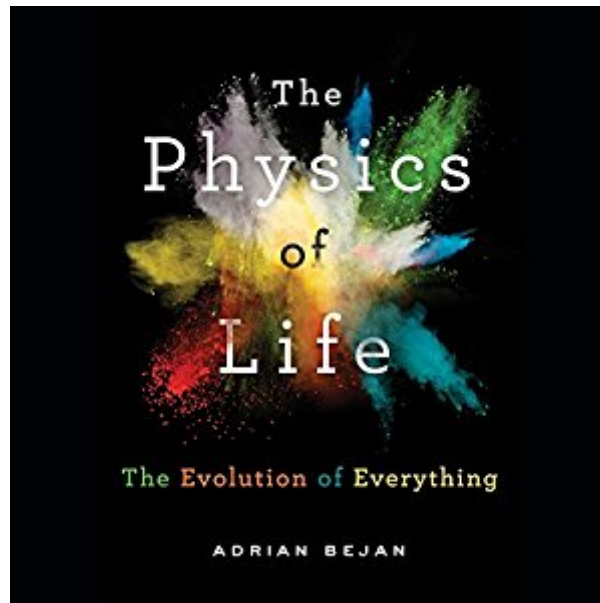




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The Physics Of Life: The Evolution Of Everything



Synopsis

The Physics of Life explores the roots of the big question by examining the deepest urges and properties of living things, both animate and inanimate: how to live longer, with food, warmth, power, movement, and free access to other people and surroundings. Bejan explores controversial and relevant issues such as sustainability, water and food supply, fuel, and economy, to critique the state in which the world understands positions of power and freedom. Breaking down concepts such as desire and power, sports, health and culture, the state of economy, water and energy, politics and distribution, Bejan uses the language of physics to explain how each system works in order to clarify the meaning of evolution in its broadest scientific sense, moving the listener towards a better understanding of the world's systems and the natural evolution of cultural and political development. The Physics of Life argues that the evolution phenomenon is much broader and older than the evolutionary designs that constitute the biosphere, empowering listeners with a new view of the globe and the future, revealing that the urge to have better ideas has the same physical effect as the urge to have better laws and better government. This is evolution explained loudly but also elegantly, forging a path that flows sustainability.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For long, social scientists and natural scientists have agreed that their jurisdictions are drastically different and distinct. Social sciences mainly make predictions about the diverse aspects of human dynamics in society. Natural sciences, especially physics, superbly make predictions about all sorts

of natural phenomena, so long as they don't touch on the social dynamics. This accepted tradition is boldly challenged by the renowned physicist Adrian Bejan with his constructal law, whose sweeping predictive power, as illustrated in the book, defies this arbitrary division between the social and the natural sciences. Bejan's ingenuity lies in his insight into the key concept of physics, namely, spatial movement which he calls flow. According to the constructal law, everything that freely moves generates a morphing flow architecture whose goal is consistently to evolve into a design that facilitates moving farther, longer and better. From this elegant law, Bejan shrewdly re-conceptualizes everything, natural, social and whatnots, in terms of the free flow of any object at issue. Everything is united into being the same category based on their movement or the lack thereof. Because of this holistic reconceptualization of everything in physics, the arbitrary division between the social and the natural sciences is bound to collapse. In chapter 1, life is explained as movement, whether it is of animate or inanimate objects. In chapter 10, death is illustrated as the lack of movement. Between these two ends of life and death, the reader is enlightened in other chapters by Bejan's inspiring application of the constructal law to technology, economy, spreading, growth, athletics, snowflakes, animals, locomotion, politics and sciences. In chapter 11, the last chapter of the book, Bejan reviews the constructal law as perceived and applied by other scientists while he perceptively as a scientist highlights that this law of physics "is bound to evolve, to serve our thinking better." Reading the book is witnessing not only the evolving processes of everything and anything but also the history-making revolution in physics and human knowledge at large.

I ordered this fascinating book, but I didn't expect it to be so intriguing yet simple and profound. I couldn't leave the Kindle from my hands until I finished the reading. The book is just brilliant!!! I recommended to all my friends, and they confirmed that I am not alone in my admiration for Dr. Bejan's last book. For example, this paragraph-- explaining my interest both in art and science--is too good not to be shared: "Scientists and artists are specimens of the same species. I do not see a difference between art and science. They are both about images in motion. The inner pleasure is the same whether making a piece of art that inspires the viewer or coming up with a scientific idea that triggers explosions of images in the mind of the same viewer." Adrian Bejan, 2016. Professor Bejan is ahead of his time, and we all understand Albert Einstein's quote: "Great spirits encounter violent opposition from mediocre minds" Thanks, Dr. Bejan for offering me, at the end of hottest months on record, my best summer reading.. Helene Cara Chester, Doctoral candidate; PhD Business, Specialty Entrepreneurship.

"New technologies emerge so that they offer easier access to our flows – greater access to the space and resources available to us." (p. 67). As I read the ebook in my tablet I realize that it is one more emerging design that facilitates the flow. And the very design of the device I am using to read the PoL is also a result of compromises. And it will continue to evolve while its design is alive. I enjoyed very much reading this book. The text flows easily and the claims are controversial and bring forward new ways to look at the world that surrounds us. I suggest to not rush in to the end. It takes time for the information to settle, as the S-shaped pace discussed in chapter 7. If I may, "The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new lands but seeing with new eyes." Marcel Proust

Adrian Bejan shows how his Constructal Law can mathematically describe naturally occurring design elements that appear just about everywhere. This is a new mental model that anyone, be they an engineer, writer, business executive or politician can use to help make sense of the cluttered and noisy world around them. If you don't do math, don't worry; the essential take-away is that predictions based on the Constructal law are verifiable. Thus fundamental design principles should be considered to exist in phenomena arising emergently (and the specific relationships worked out with subsequent data analysis) The Constructal law is not proof that a system has generated emergent behavior but it is a very useful approach to thinking about the possibilities. A must read but even better if you have already read his previous book, Design in Nature.

"The Physics of Life: The Evolution of Everything" is a seminal contribution to the understanding of life from a physical perspective, guiding the reader through a wide set of big questions based on powerful and novel physical foundations. This book provides Bejan's breakthrough insights into the nature of life and the meaning of evolution. I highly recommend not only reading but also studying this important text.

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