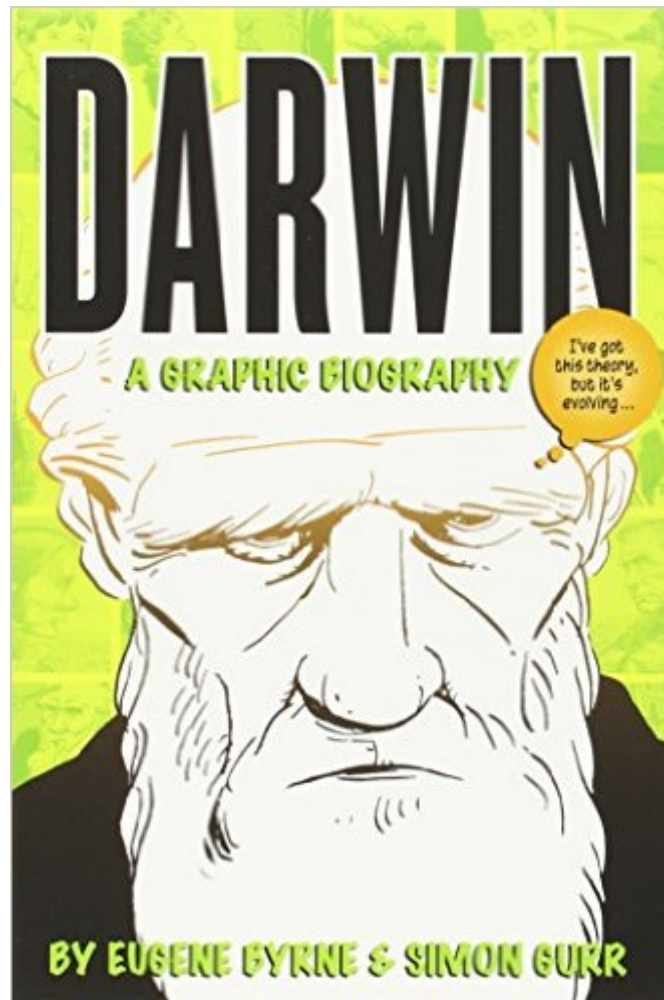


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Darwin: A Graphic Biography



Synopsis

Darwin: A Graphic Biography is an inspiring expedition into the physical and intellectual adventures of Charles Darwin. Presenting Darwin's life in a smart and entertaining graphic novel, Darwin: A Graphic Biography attempts to not only educate the reader about Darwin but also the scientific world of the 1800s. The graphic medium is ideal for recreating a very specific time frame, succeeding in placing the reader right next to a young Darwin on a "beetling" expedition. With specimens in both hands, and anxious to get another, Darwin ends up stuffing the third beetle into his mouth. Darwin's life presented in this form is an inspirational tale for kids of all ages. They'll be sure to identify with a curious young Darwin finding his way on youthful adventures in the fields near his house. The ups, downs, and near-misses of Darwin's youth are portrayed honestly and without foreshadowing of his later fame. This is a key point for younger readers: that Darwin wasn't somehow predestined to greatness. He was curious, patient, and meticulous. He persevered--a great lesson about what science is all about.

Book Information

Paperback: 100 pages

Publisher: Smithsonian Books (2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1588343529

ISBN-13: 978-1588343529

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.3 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #318,496 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in [Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Educational & Nonfiction](#) #35 in [Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Biographies](#) #665 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Scientists](#)

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

This is the complete review as it appears

(<http://ianwoodnovellum.blogspot.com/2015/04/darwin-graphic-biography-by-eugene-byrne.html>) at my blog dedicated to reading, writing (no 'rithmetic!), movies, & TV. As a young man, Darwin was

rather rudderless. He was pointed in the direction of family tradition (for men) which was medicine, but he couldn't stand the sight of blood and had to leave the OR during one surgery he was supposed to be witnessing. Of course, medicine was far more of an experimental "if not just plain mental" endeavor back in his day than it is now, and far more bloody and painful (there was no anesthesia). Perhaps Darwin was wise in deciding that he would much rather spend his time taking nature rambles and looking at beetles, plants, and life in tidal pools. His father determined that he should become a clergyman in default of a medical career, and though he was religious, Darwin wasn't interested in that, either. He did manage, with some help, to complete his schooling, but before he had a chance to lose his way in the church, he had the opportunity to take a sea voyage on a ship called The Beagle. The idea was to finish mapping South America's coast line and estuaries for trade and naval use. The voyage was supposed to last two years, but Darwin was gone for five, and when he returned, he was quite a celebrity in scientific circles, having documented geology and life, both plant and animal, extensively, and sent back hundreds and hundreds of specimens, some of them live, along with letters and reports. One of these live specimens was a giant tortoise from the Galapagos, which ended up in Australia and died only in 2006. The idea of organisms changing over time is inescapable to anyone with eyes and a decent amount of smarts.

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