



## The Future Is Wild

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Imagine the world in the far distant future -- a world without humans, a world so different from ours that, until now, it's been impossible to consider.

What creatures will roam the land or swim in the oceans? **The Future Is Wild** brings to life a world of amazing creatures and sets them loose in our imagination.

Based on fundamental biological and evolutionary principles, they could -- and may yet -- exist: **5 million years from now**. It cannot fly, but the carakiller is the Amazon's swiftest predator. **100 million years from now**. Toratons, descendents of tortoises, are the biggest animals ever to walk the Earth. **200 million years from now**. Warrior terabytes disable victims by spraying chemicals at them.

In five million years, Northern Europe and North America are covered by ice sheets. Only the hardest, most adaptable species are able to survive. In 100 million years, Earth is a global hothouse, brimming with life. Another 100 million years and Earth is a single, huge supercontinent and one vast, warm ocean.

Using state-of-the-art computer animation, **The Future Is Wild** is able to transform the imagination into actual images, creating a living world of strange creatures and extraordinary habitats.

## The Future Is Wild Details

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## From Reader Review The Future Is Wild for online ebook

### David R. says

Let me start by stating that the future wildlife is imaginative: who couldn't like "Sharkopaths" or "Squibbons" or "Silver Spiders" as the product of thought exercises? But more seriously, this book is an over-the-wall exercise. The "design team" makes certain assumptions about the flow of evolution from the present to about 200 million years out, some of which are questionable, to say the least. One, is that humans somehow mysteriously vanish from Earth within the next few thousand years. The book says we (somehow) go extinct. We must be very fragile. Another is that the direction of evolution will be downhill; that progressively fewer lifeforms exist. This leads ultimately to a world populated by variants of molluscs, fish and insects. Period. That's not at all how I have understood evolution to unfold. In the end, let's call this a fun thought exercise properly extant in the realm of apocalyptic science fiction. Read it accordingly.

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### Ethan Hulbert says

Very fun book, very creative. Shows what may be in one out of millions of possible timelines. Great to encourage thought.

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### Pa says

This is an imaginative story of what life might be like 5, 100, and 200 million years in the future. Based on reasonable assumptions of continued continental drift, associated climate change, etc. Not to be taken too seriously, but an interesting (and sometimes amusing) read.

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### Joel says

Though I like Dixon a lot as an illustrator & author, these types of books are rarely as good as the TV series/movies upon which they are based. This volume was an so-so follow up of the series (specials?) 'The Future Is Wild' - I felt the critters looked extremely good but not very plausible.

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### Julian Meynell says

This book is a companion piece to the television series of the same name. It is a work of fictional zoology which is a genre invented by Dougal Dixon. I have read all of Dixon's earlier work in this genre. The book looks ahead 5 million years, 100 million years and 200 million years. It covers four environments from each era and looks at about three creatures from each environment. In this is parallels the TV show exactly.

It is not clear to me how much input Dixon had on the creature designs in the TV show, but they certainly feel like his work. The book is quite light and is most suitable for children. It is not as good as the Television show in my opinion. I think that it makes more sense to just watch the TV show which is available on youtube. The big problem with the book is the art, which are stills from the TV show. The TV show's

computer animation was quite primitive. In the book this is very noticeable. The book does not have the magic of the earlier books because of poor art. One plus from the show is that while the TV show was quite slow paced everything here is condensed so it is a quick and easy read.

As to the content, the inventiveness of the animals is very well done. My favorite is the Phantoms, but the whole thing is very inventive. While some of it is about convergent evolution, there are some utterly unique and very plausible creature concepts. In this it is the best of the alternative zoology books. I found it a bit of a downer that almost all vertebrates go extinct, but perhaps I am biased because I am also a vertebrate.

In addition, it is also very good at teaching why things evolve. A child reading it will learn about adaptive radiation, the roll of mass extinctions, and so on.

Its a wonderful flight of fancy and educational, but the presentation is lacking.

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### **Julia says**

This is a fun look at what some scientists and artists imagine the world's flora, fauna and natural environment might be like 5 million, 100 million and 200 million years from now, under the assumption that human beings have become extinct.

At first glance, the creatures seem to be mere fanciful products of a vivid imagination, some well-suited for a good science fiction tale. However, the authors explain how each is actually based on reasonable evolutionary changes according to what we currently know about the history and evolution of today's living species. There is also a companion DVD series available for this book.

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