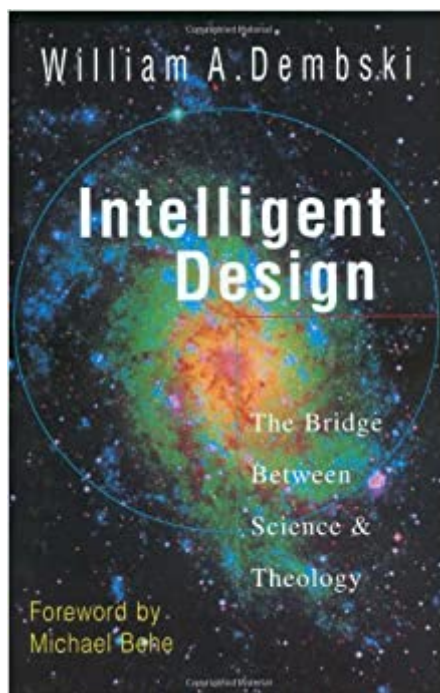The book was found

Intelligent Design: The Bridge Between Science And Theology

Synopsis

Voted a 2000 Book of the Year by Christianity Today! The Intelligent Design movement is three things: a scientific research program for investigating intelligent causesan intellectual movement that challenges naturalistic evolutionary theoriesa way of understanding divine action Although the fast-growing movement has gained considerable grassroots support, many scientists and theologians remain skeptical about its merits. Scientists worry that it's bad science (merely creationism in disguise) and theologians worry that it's bad theology (misunderstanding divine action). In this book William Dembski addresses these concerns and brilliantly argues that intelligent design provides a crucial link between science and theology. Various chapters creatively and powerfully address intelligent discernment of divine action in nature, why the significane of miracles should be reconsidered, and the demise and unanswered questions of British natural theology. Effectively challenging the hegemony of naturalism and reinstating design within science, Dembski shows how intelligent design can be unpacked as a theory of information. Intelligent Design is a pivotal, synthesizing work from a thinker whom Phillip Johnson calls "one of the most important of the design theorists who are sparking a scientific revolution by legitimating the concept of intelligent design in science." --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

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Customer Reviews

"Einstein once remarked that the most incomprehensible thing about the world is that it is comprehensible." This statement, quoted by William Dembski, is a way of summarizing intelligent design theory, which argues that it is possible to find evidence for design in the universe. The author

of The Design Inference (a scholarly exploration of this topic published by Cambridge University Press) in this book aims to show the lay reader "how detecting design within the universe, and especially against the backdrop of biology and biochemistry, unseats naturalism"--and above all Darwin's expulsion of design in his theory of evolution. Intelligent Design is organized into three parts: the first part gives an introduction to design and shows how modernity--science in the last two centuries--has undermined our intuition of this truth. The second and central part of the book examines "the philosophical and scientific basis for intelligent design." The final part shows how "science and theology relate coherently and how intelligent design establishes the crucial link between the two." This suggests that Dembski is not simply rejecting Darwin and naturalism on fundamentalist or biblical grounds. While grounded in faith, he wishes to show how "God's design is accessible to scientific inquiry." As such, the book should be of interest to all thinking believers. --Doug Thorpe

Until recently, the argument for designAthat nature (especially living organisms) shows the hand of an intelligent artificerAwas generally viewed as an abandoned relic of the pre-Darwinian past. Dembski and his colleagues at the Discovery Institute's Center for the Renewal of Science and Culture have worked over the past decade to rehabilitate the concept of "intelligent design" not only as a plank of natural theology but as a theoretical resource within science. This collection of essays represents Dembski's efforts to remedy the conceptual fuzziness and lack of empirical content that plagued older versions of the design argument. Dembski recasts design as a problem in information theory, of empirically detecting the "complex specified information" that we attribute to intelligent causes. Although design inferences in biology or cosmology are obviously controversial, Dembski aims to normalize them by comparison to similar inferences routinely made in cryptography, forensic science and the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI)Athe latter being an especially effective counterexample to the claim that detecting unknown intelligences is impermissible as a scientific project. The book also presents more theologically oriented essays, including an especially astute analysis of the demise of British natural theology and an evocative (if unsympathetic) description of what Dembski sees as the "religious" character of scientific naturalism. Other material interspersed throughout the collection is less clearly related to intelligent design but gives a sense of Dembski's overall theological perspective. Readers who are principally interested in intelligent design itself, or who do not share the authors' theological interests, may find this distracting. (Nov.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Excellent, intelligent read! I couldn't put the book down. Dembski is a scholarly, scientific and sacred writer that establishes his knowledge of the subject at the onset and solidifies his theories without a hitch. A fabulous read, by a captivating and intelligent writer!

Great purchase. Thank you.

5 stars

This book is really a compilation of essays by the Scientist/Philosopher William Dembski that is, on the plus side, relatively easy to understand, and therefore easy to read through. Yet it is not a comprehensive analysis at all; the more recent "No Free Lunch" is much better in this respect. However, the essays do give a good feel for Professor Dembski's main push, if you will. I have yet to find an authoritative book on the subject, actually, that is good for laymen, but advanced enough to get into the meat of the issues.

great

Would life exist without an intelligent designer? This book challenges Darwinism and the author believes scientific naturalism is "on the way out."I felt this book was written for scientists, philosophers and mathematicians. I'm not sure it is such a good book for the average person trying to understand intelligent design as I was.I foundÃ Â Darwin's Black Box: The Biochemical Challenge to EvolutionÃ Â much more readable.This book does however have extremely logical arguments and the author seems to have the wisdom of a man twice his age.If you are willing to dig through this book you may find some insights into the creation-evolution debate. As for me, much of it went right over my head as I'm not a mathematician.~The Rebecca Review

Dembski presents complete, well thought out and logical information to enhance or develop your own ideas.

I am a believer in Intelligent Design. Dr. Dembski obviously has great passion about his subject matter; however, he spends was too much time introducing his subject matter and less getting to his point. Reads like a philosophy major text rather than a scientific discussion.

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