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Charles Darwin

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Charles Darwin : The Voyage of the Beagle (Everyman Paperbacks) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Voyage of the Beagle (Everyman Paperbacks):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. WonderfulBy C from SeattleI hadn't read it until now, and am enjoying it much much more than I thought that I would. What a treat to have access to the thoughts and writings from one of the most brilliant minds of modern times. Engaging, thoughtful and fascinating to see the observations that contribute to the eventual theory of evolution. Darwin seems like a delightful individual, and doesn't hesitate to poke fun at himself. One criticism: the formatting was dreadful in this version - the footnotes breakup the text. But it was free, so I suppose I shouldn't complain.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The Voyage of the BeagleBy Chie^u Ti'm, Ca 92656Excellent reading book with beautiful illustrations.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This edition is complete, not abridgedBy Susan WoodwardThe reader of this edition, the great David Case, is wonderful. And of course Voyage is a great work, interesting on many levels, a glimpse of insight and genius to come.Some listeners think that a passage regarding the outrage of the ichneumon wasp paralyzing caterpillars and laying her eggs inside them is missing. It is not missing.In Voyage, near the end of Chapter 2, (it is a long passage, 4 or 5 paragraphs), Darwin does discuss this wasp, and her pursuit of a spider (totally creepy), and mentions that the wasp also paralyzes caterpillars and lays her eggs in them. But the connection between the survival strategy of the wasp to benevolent design is not discussed in Voyage in any edition, audio or paper. In Origin, Darwin writes that this phenomenon can't be consistent with benevolent design. Darwin expresses himself most clearly regarding the practices of this wasp and benevolent diety in a letter to Asa Gray written in 1860. The letter is quoted in numerous Wikipedia

pieces on Darwin: "I own that I cannot see as plainly as others do, and as I should wish to do, evidence of design and beneficence on all sides of us. There seems to me too much misery in the world. I cannot persuade myself that a beneficent and omnipotent God would have designedly created the *Ichneumonidae* with the express intention of their feeding within the living bodies of Caterpillars, or that a cat should play with mice."

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From the Publisher This book is in Electronic Paperback Format. If you view this book on any of the computer systems below, it will look like a book. Simple to run, no program to install. Just put the CD in your CDROM drive and start reading. The simple easy to use interface is child tested at pre-school levels. Windows 3.11, Windows/95, Windows/98, OS/2 and MacIntosh and Linux with Windows Emulation. Includes Quiet Vision's Dynamic Index. the ability to build a index for any set of characters or words. From the Inside Flap In 1831, Charles Darwin embarked on an expedition that, in his own words, determined my whole career. The Voyage of the Beagle chronicles his five-year journey around the world and especially the coastal waters of South America as a naturalist on the H.M.S. Beagle. While traveling through these unexplored countries collecting specimens, Darwin began to formulate the theories of evolution and natural selection realized in his master work, *The Origin of Species*. Travel memoir and scientific primer alike, *The Voyage of the Beagle* is a lively and accessible introduction to the mind of one of history's most influential thinkers. About the Author About the Author: "Charles Robert Darwin (12 February 1809 19 April 1882) was an English naturalist. After becoming eminent among scientists for his field work and inquiries into geology, he proposed and provided scientific evidence that all species of life have evolved over time from one or a few common ancestors through the process of natural selection. The fact that evolution occurs became accepted by the scientific community and the general public in his lifetime, while his theory of natural selection came to be widely seen as the primary explanation of the process of evolution in the 1930s, and now forms the basis of modern evolutionary theory. In modified form, Darwin's scientific discovery remains the foundation of biology, as it provides a unifying logical explanation for the diversity of life. Darwin developed his interest in natural history while studying first medicine at Edinburgh University, then theology at Cambridge. His five-year voyage on the Beagle established him as a geologist whose observations and theories supported Charles Lyell's uniformitarian ideas, and publication of his journal of the voyage made him famous as a popular author. Puzzled by the geographical distribution of wildlife and fossils he collected on the voyage, Darwin investigated the transmutation of species and conceived his theory of natural selection in 1838. Having seen others attacked as heretics for such ideas, he confided only in his closest friends and continued extensive research to meet anticipated objections. His research was still in progress in 1858 when Alfred Russel Wallace sent him an essay which described a similar theory, prompting immediate joint publication of both of their theories. His 1859 book *On the Origin of Species* established evolution by common descent as the dominant scientific explanation of diversification in nature. He examined human evolution and sexual selection in *The Descent of Man, and Selection in Relation to Sex*, followed by *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*. His research on plants was published in a series of books, and in his final book, he examined earthworms and their effect on soil. In recognition of Darwin's pre-eminence, he was buried in Westminster Abbey, close to John Herschel and Isaac Newton." (Quote from wikipedia.org)