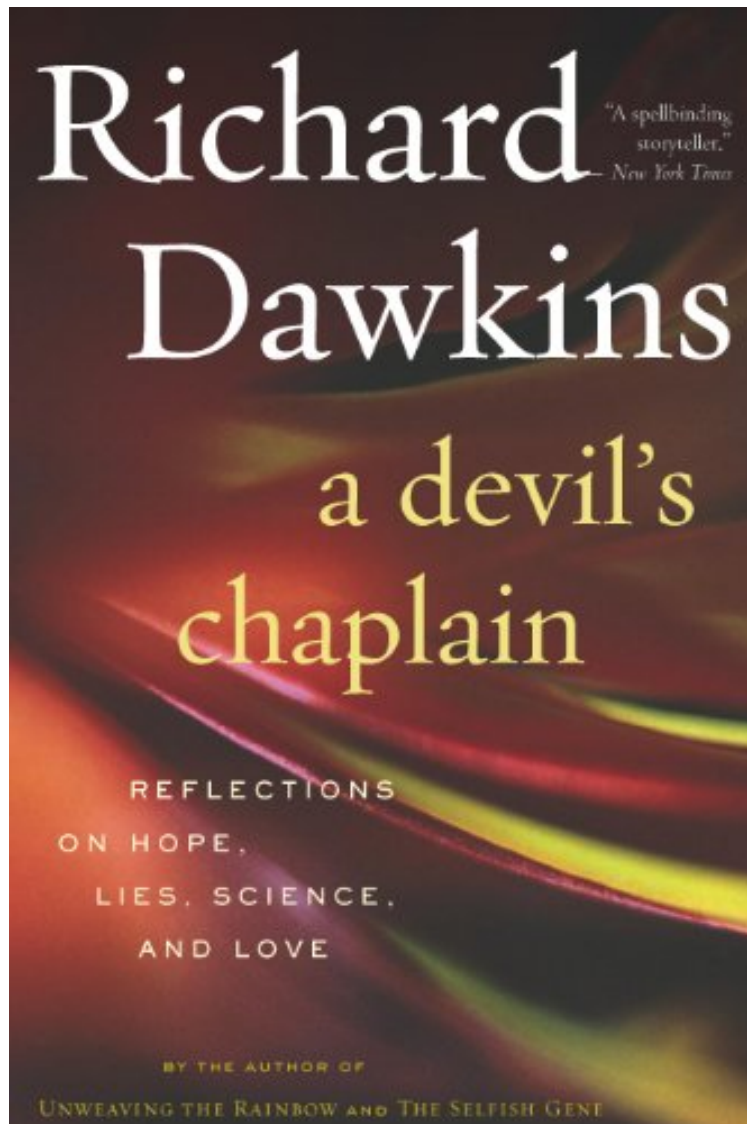


[Get free] A Devil's Chaplain

## A Devil's Chaplain

Von Richard Dawkins

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**Von Richard Dawkins : A Devil's Chaplain** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Devil's Chaplain:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Noch immer hochaktuell und faszinierendVon TomekWunderbar ausgewhlte Beitrge eines bemerkenswerten Wissenschafters/Logikers. Traurig, dass sich fr die meisten Dawkins-Werke (v.a. "The Extended Phenotype") keine Verlage fr deutsche bersetzungen finden.5 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. In Defense of the

Scientific Method  
Von Donald Mitchell  
If you only read one book by Professor Richard Dawkins, I recommend *The Selfish Gene*. That book is a remarkable tour de force covering the latest thinking about how evolution really works by taking into account our understanding of genetic qualities in reinforcing the evolutionary struggle of the survival of the fittest. By contrast, *A Devil's Chaplain* is a book that will appeal primarily to people who have read several books by Professor Dawkins and would like to know more about him as a person and his views outside of neo-Darwinism. If you have not read anything by Professor Dawkins, I recommend you skip this book unless you have a thorough understanding of the latest evolutionary theories. Much of the book won't make sense to you otherwise. *A Devil's Chaplain* is a series of essays (some published before and some not), laments, eulogies and a letter to his daughter. From these materials, you can learn more about how Professor Dawkins sees his colleagues, those who oppose evolutionary teachings, postmodernists, and his personal views on religious beliefs and "alternative" medicine. Much of what he says will not surprise you. As a scientist, he favors the scientific method and is rationally skeptical of anything that cannot be proven by this method. He is also annoyed by a society that grants prominent opportunities to share views that are not proven by scientific methods. As a result, he is also an atheist . . . but one who draws great joy from considering the world around him and the methods by which it has been created. Many people think of atheists as gloomy people, or people without much emotion. Professor Dawkins is neither. His loving descriptions of relations with his colleagues, rivals and mentors show just the opposite. His concern for using scientific methods is obviously also based on a desire to help people live better lives. Catholics may find the book a little annoying in that Professor Dawkins likes to challenge some of the "faith"-based beliefs that that religion espouses. As I finished the book, I found that I was most attracted to the advanced speculations that Professor Dawkins used in his book that speak directly to evolutionary studies. I especially recommend the essay, "Son of Moore's Law," where he describes the timing of when individual genomes will be economically affordable and how that will influence health and medical treatments. I was also drawn to the essays that describe his optimistic belief that we can escape our evolutionary heritage and evolve into people who produce the best possible future for all. There's much food for thought here. I doubt if any religious believers will be undone by his arguments. I also doubt that he will convert any people who believe in the literal creation as described in the Bible to change their views. Ultimately, I was left wondering how other prominent scientists bridge the gap between their scientific methods and having a rich religious life. I graded the book down one star because the editor presumes the reader has a little too much familiarity with the leading lines of thought about evolution. The book could have used more footnotes to explain the background of the points Professor Dawkins is making for those of us who are not evolutionary biologists . . . but simply like to read books about the subject.

5 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Auf den Punkt gebracht  
Von Customer  
Richard Dawkins beschäftigt sich in dieser Essaysammlung mit verschiedenen Themen, darunter natürlich seine Spezialgebiete Evolution, Memetik und Religionskritik. Besonders erwähnenswert sind jedoch auch die Aufsätze "What is true?" und "Postmodernism disrobed", in denen er sich gegen relativistisches Beliebigkeitsdenken ausspricht. In "Trial by Jury" kritisiert er Gerichte, in denen Geschworene das Urteil fällen. "The Joy of Living Dangerously: Sanderson of Oundle" ist sein Plädoyer für ein klausurfrees Schulsystem und die Grabesrede für Douglas Adams setzt der Sammlung die Krone auf. Man fragt sich, warum dieses Buch noch immer nicht in Deutschland erschienen ist. Lag es vielleicht an "Time to stand up", Dawkins bislang deutlichster Religionskritik? Wer die englische Sprache beherrscht, sollte auf jeden Fall zugreifen. Dawkins hat einige sehr wichtige und interessante Dinge zu sagen und er tut das mindestens so unterhaltsam wie spannend. Kaufen!

**Kurzbeschreibung**  
The first collection of essays from renowned scientist and best-selling author Richard Dawkins is an enthusiastic declaration, a testament to the power of rigorous scientific examination to reveal the wonders of the world. In these essays Dawkins revisits the meme, the unit of cultural information that he named and wrote about in his groundbreaking work *The Selfish Gene*. Here also are moving tributes to friends and colleagues, including a eulogy for novelist Douglas Adams, author of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*; correspondence with the evolutionary biologist Stephen Jay Gould; and visits with the famed paleoanthropologists Richard and Maeve Leakey at their African wildlife preserve. The collection ends with a vivid note to Dawkins's ten-year-old daughter, reminding her to remain curious, to ask questions, and to live the examined life.