

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910812079103321
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Titolo	The robot's rebellion : finding meaning in the age of Darwin // Keith E. Stanovich
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Chicago, : University of Chicago Press, 2004
ISBN	1-282-93292-6 9786612932922 0-226-77119-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (375 p.)
Disciplina	128
Soggetti	Philosophical anthropology Evolutionary psychology Meaning (Philosophy)
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 277-344) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- CONTENTS -- PREFACE -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- Chapter 1. Staring into the Darwinian Abyss -- Chapter 2. A Brain at War with Itself -- Chapter 3. The Robot's Secret Weapon -- Chapter 4. The Biases of the Autonomous Brain: Characteristics of the Short-Leash Mind that Sometimes Cause Us Grief -- Chapter 5. How Evolutionary Psychology Goes Wrong -- Chapter 6. Dysrationalia: Why So Many Smart People Do So Many Dumb Things -- Chapter 7. From the Clutches of the Genes into the Clutches of the Memes -- Chapter 8. A Soul without Mystery: Finding Meaning in the Age of Darwin -- Notes -- References -- Author Index -- Subject Index
Sommario/riassunto	The idea that we might be robots is no longer the stuff of science fiction; decades of research in evolutionary biology and cognitive science have led many esteemed scientists to the conclusion that, according to the precepts of universal Darwinism, humans are merely the hosts for two replicators (genes and memes) that have no interest in us except as conduits for replication. Richard Dawkins, for example, jolted us into realizing that we are just survival mechanisms for our own genes, sophisticated robots in service of huge colonies of replicators to whom concepts of rationality, intelligence, agency, and

even the human soul are irrelevant. Accepting and now forcefully responding to this decentering and disturbing idea, Keith Stanovich here provides the tools for the "robot's rebellion," a program of cognitive reform necessary to advance human interests over the limited interest of the replicators and define our own autonomous goals as individual human beings. He shows how concepts of rational thinking from cognitive science interact with the logic of evolution to create opportunities for humans to structure their behavior to serve their own ends. These evaluative activities of the brain, he argues, fulfill the need that we have to ascribe significance to human life. We may well be robots, but we are the only robots who have discovered that fact. Only by recognizing ourselves as such, argues Stanovich, can we begin to construct a concept of self based on what is truly singular about humans: that they gain control of their lives in a way unique among life forms on Earth-through rational self-determination.

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