

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910814333903321
Autore	Edwards Ronald <1964->
Titolo	The edge of evolution : animality, inhumanity, and the island of Doctor Moreau // Ronald Edwards
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, New York : , : Oxford University Press, , 2016 ©2016
ISBN	0-19-021211-X 0-19-021210-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (297 p.)
Classificazione	SCI070000
Disciplina	823.912
Soggetti	Literature and science Animals in literature Humanity in literature Ethics in literature Evolution (Biology) in literature Biology in literature
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Machine generated contents note: -- PART ONE: NOT MEANT TO KNOW -- Chapter 1: The Paw -- Taking exception / Science and fiction / Science fiction -- Chapter 2: The Ism that Wasn't -- It does not please you / Darwin in the middle / Two windows -- Chapter 3: Don't Meddle -- Movies and Moreau / Sorcery / Life science -- PART TWO: THE THING IS AN ABOMINATION -- Chapter 4: The House of Pain -- No pain, no gain / Moreau 1, Prendick 0 / Pain is real -- Chapter 5: Into the Lab and Onto the Slab -- In the book / How / But why -- PART THREE: POOR BEASTS -- Chapter 6: All the Difference -- Moreau's Man / Prendick's gaze / "No!" / The virago -- Chapter 7: To the Beasts You May Go -- No threshold / Selection and its discontents / The Valley -- PART FOUR: NO ESCAPE -- Chapter 8: That is the Law -- Whose Law? / Hell is real / The Jesus moment / The rebel -- Chapter 9: Beast Monsters -- The taste of blood / The stubborn beast flesh / The horror -- Chapter 10: Big Thinks -- Suffering and philosophy / Science and humanity.

Sommario/riassunto

"In this interdisciplinary work, author Ron Edwards offers an innovative rereading of H. G. Wells' "The Island of Dr. Moreau." Edwards utilizes his twenty-five years in biology and the ethics of animal research to examine the bioethical implications of Wells' work and its relevance to contemporary scientific and philosophical discussions. He tackles the myth of human exceptionalism, the notion that we are fundamentally different from the rest of the animal kingdom. We must view ourselves, he argues, not as from animals, but as animals. The approachable tone is suitable for a wide audience of the scientifically curious. At the same time, great care is given to providing an accurate and considered treatment of the technical aspects of the novel, including the scientific plausibility of Dr. Moreau's experiment. Never before have Wells' ideas been examined in such detail by an evolutionary biologist with the author's considerable experience. The implications are far-reaching, touching on key topics in animal rights, evolution, and the relationship between religion and science. Its approachability and dedication to technical accuracy produces a unique perspective on Wells' classic. Anyone with an interest in confronting some of the central issues of human existence through the lens of fiction will be rewarded with an original and thought-provoking work. "--

"The book presents a re-reading of H. G. Wells' novel "The Island of Doctor Moreau" as a key to addressing the controversies of our own humanity. It raises the issue: without human exceptionalism, where do ethics come from?"--
