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Nota di contenuto	PALAEOBIOLOGY II; Contents; List of Contributors; Foreword; 1 Major Events in the History of Life; 1.1 Early Life; 1.1.1 Origin of Life; 1.1.2 Exploring for a Fossil Record of Extraterrestrial Life; 1.1.3 Life in the Archaean; 1.1.4 Late Proterozoic Biogeochemical Cycles; 1.2 The Cambrian Radiation; 1.2.1 Metazoan Origins and Early Evolution; 1.2.2 Significance of Early Shells; 1.2.3 Cambrian Food Webs; 1.2.4 The Origin of Vertebrates; 1.3 Palaeozoic Events; 1.3.1 Ordovician Radiation; 1.3.2 Rise of Fishes; 1.3.3 Evolution of Reefs; 1.3.4 Early Land Plants 2 The Evolutionary Process and the Fossil Record 2.1 Species Evolution; 2.1.1 Speciation and Morphological Change; 2.1.2 Evolutionary Stasis vs. Change; 2.1.3 Rapid Speciation in Species Flocks; 2.2 Evolution of Form; 2.2.1 Developmental Genes and the Evolution of Morphology;

2.2.2 Constraints on the Evolution of Form; 2.2.3 Occupation of Morphospace; 2.3 Macroevolution; 2.3.1 Origin of Evolutionary Novelty; 2.3.2 Controls on Rates of Evolution; 2.3.3 Competition in Evolution; 2.3.4 Biotic Interchange; 2.3.5 Importance of Heterochrony; 2.3.6 Hierarchies in Evolution  
2.3.7 Phylogenetic Tree Shape; 2.3.8 Contingency; 2.3.9 Selectivity during Extinctions; 2.3.10 Biotic Recovery from Mass Extinctions; 2.3.11 Evolutionary Trends; 2.4 Patterns of Diversity; 2.4.1 Biodiversity through Time; 2.4.2 Late Ordovician Extinction; 2.4.3 Late Devonian Extinction; 2.4.4 End-Permian Extinction; 2.4.5 Impact of K...T Boundary Events on Marine Life; 2.4.6 Impact of K...T Boundary Events on Terrestrial Life; 2.4.7 Pleistocene Extinctions; 3 Taphonomy; 3.1 Fossilized Materials; 3.1.1 DNA; 3.1.2 Proteins; 3.1.3 Lipids; 3.1.4 Bacteria  
3.3.9 Archaeological Remains

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Sommario/riassunto

Palaeobiology: A Synthesis was widely acclaimed both for its content and production quality. Ten years on, Derek Briggs and Peter Crowther have once again brought together over 150 leading authorities from around the world to produce Palaeobiology II. Using the same successful formula, the content is arranged as a series of concise articles, taking a thematic approach to the subject, rather than treating the various fossil groups systematically. This entirely new book, with its diversity of new topics and over 100 new contributors, reflects the exciting developments in the field,

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