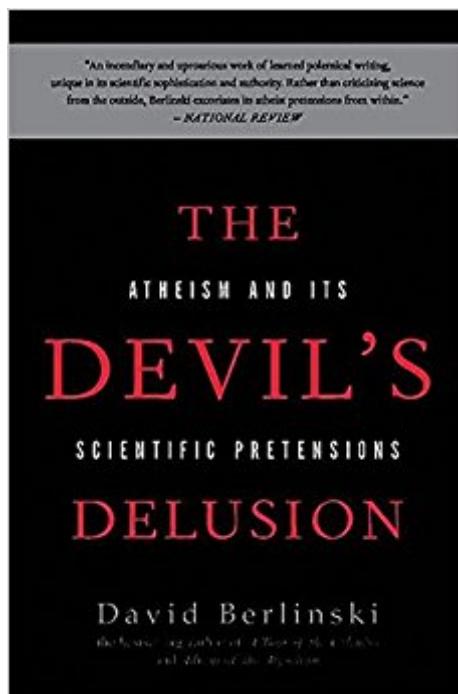


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# The Devil's Delusion: Atheism And Its Scientific Pretensions



## **Synopsis**

Militant atheism is on the rise. In recent years Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris, Daniel Dennett, and Christopher Hitchens have produced a steady stream of best-selling books denigrating religious belief. These authors are merely the leading edge of a larger movement that includes much of the scientific community. In response, mathematician David Berlinski, himself a secular Jew, delivers a biting defense of religious thought. *The Devil's Delusion* is a brilliant, incisive, and funny book that explores the limits of science and the pretensions of those who insist it is the ultimate touchstone for understanding our world.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"Berlinski knows his science and wields his rapier deftly. He makes great sport with his opponents, and his readers will surely enjoy it."--Tom Bethell, bestselling author of "The Politically Incorrect Guide to Science""A powerful riposte to atheist mockery and cocksure science, and to the sort of philosophy that surrenders to them. David Berlinski proceeds reasonably and calmly to challenge recent scientific theorizing and to expose the unreason from which it presumes to criticize religion."--Harvey Mansfield, Professor of Government, Harvard University "Berlinski's book is everything desirable: it is idiomatic, profound, brilliantly polemical, amusing, and of course vastly learned. I congratulate him." --William F. Buckley Jr. "With high style and light-hearted disdain, David Berlinski deflates the intellectual pretensions of the scientific atheist crowd. Maybe they can recite the Periodic Table by heart, but the secular Berlinski shows that this doesn't get them very far

in reasoning about much weightier matters."--Michael J. Behe, Professor of Biological Sciences, Lehigh University, bestselling author of "Darwin's Black Box" and "The Edge of Evolution" "David Berlinski plus any topic equals an extraordinary book." --Chicago Tribune "From the Hardcover edition."

David Berlinski holds a PhD from Princeton University and has taught mathematics and philosophy at universities in the United States and in France. He is the best-selling author of such books as *A Tour of the Calculus*, *The Advent of the Algorithm*, and *Newton's Gift*. Berlinski writes frequently for *Commentary*, among other journals. He lives in Paris, France.

I always appreciate the rare occasion when one of the academic elite have a crisis of conscience and bring themselves to confront facts and speak the truth, even at possible risk of damaging themselves within their professional community. It is this bravery and dedication to unmasking doublespeak and nonsense that permeates much of modern scientific theory that makes this book such a joy to read. Don't expect it to answer all your questions about where we came from and why we are here, but appreciate that you will be asking better and more intelligent questions in the quest for understanding and truth on the matter.

This book provides a very thorough analysis of the atheistic thought process associated with many scientists of our time. Ideally scientists should follow the evidence but as with many other individuals, they can be tripped up by their own hubris and arrogance. I appreciate this author who breaks down the assumptions made and the non-sequitor conclusions in much of the present day scientists. As Lenin famously stated that a lie told often enough becomes the truth.

This book will make you more intelligent simply by reading it carefully and thoughtfully. If you have any luck at all, it might even make you better-looking and more humorous ...et carter

An interesting look at what appears to be the arrogance of those who stridently and vehemently defend the suggestion that intelligent design or creation theory are not possible. Questions remain unanswered even for the most academically capable scientists in the field of biological science, and differences of opinion exist among even those who work mightily to understand how we got here.

Berlinski describes himself as "a secular Jew", but he does in numerous places reference especially

the New Testament in a good bit more depth than someone who is really secular. Nevertheless, the book is a very good look into the farcical proclamations of the anti-Intelligent Design types who simply DECLARE their view to be correct "and anyone who disagrees is obviously an idiot" without ever providing actual support for their assertions.

David Berlinski is somewhat entertaining and has some good points but I thought this could've been put together more neatly and to the point.

Very entertaining, very humorous and yet very intellectually satisfying. Science divorced from Faith is the Delusion. I recommend to any who appreciate reading a sober humorous take on the Science vs Faith argument especially if one is an a-theist. The only negative, it ended all too soon.

In his most unique fashion, which can only be Berlinski, Dawkins' spurious pretensions concerning origins and their permutations are skillfully debunked and placed in the rubbish receptacle where they belong by this masterful thinker and writer. Berlinski unwinds the unacceptable, unscientific conclusions of the evolutionary crowd with a sarcastic, Socratic skill and does so in such a thorough and intellectual manner that a person can scarcely go forward in thought without becoming an ardent skeptic of any evidence or verbiage that proceeds from the tomes or rhetoric with which those supporters so unfailing fling upon the unsuspecting masses, clamoring for more ridiculous cliches with which to avoid the reality of creation.

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