

Preface, ix

Foreword to the First Edition, xi

Francis Crick

Prologue to the Second Edition, xv

James D. Watson

THE ORIGINS OF RNA AND RNA AT THE ORIGIN

- 1 Setting the Stage: The History, Chemistry, and Geobiology behind RNA, 1
S.A. Benner, M.A. Carrigan, A. Ricardo, and F. Frye
- 2 Progress toward Understanding the Origin of the RNA World, 23
G.F. Joyce and L.E. Orgel
- 3 Protocells: Genetic Polymers Inside Membrane Vesicles, 57
I.A. Chen, M.M. Hanczyc, P.L. Sazani, and J.W. Szostak

BUILDING A FUNCTIONAL RNA

- 4 Riboswitches and the RNA World, 89
R.R. Breaker
- 5 Catalytic Strategies of Self-Cleaving Ribozymes: Relics of an RNA World?, 109
A. Ke and J.A. Doudna
- 6 How the Group I Intron Works: A Case Study of RNA Structure and Function, 133
J.L. Hougland, J.A. Piccirilli, M. Forconi, J. Lee, and D. Herschlag

EXITING THE ANCIENT RNA WORLD—SYNTHETASES AND RIBOSOMES

- 7 RNA, Lipids, and Membranes, 207
T. Janas, T. Janas, and M. Yarus
- 8 Aminoacyl tRNA Synthetases: From the RNA World to the Theater of Proteins, 227
P. Schimmel and K. Beebe
- 9 The Roles of RNA in the Synthesis of Protein, 257
P.B. Moore and T.A. Steitz
- 10 Evolution of Ribosomes and Translation from an RNA World, 287
H.F. Noller

RICHNESS OF RNA ROLES IN A MODERN RNA WORLD

- 11 The RNP World, 309
T.R. Cech, D. Moras, K. Nagai, and J.R. Williamson
- 12 The Ever-Growing World of Small Nuclear Ribonucleoproteins, 327
K.T. Tycowski, N.G. Kolev, N.K. Conrad, V. Fok, and J.A. Steitz
- 13 Spliceosome Structure and Function, 369
C.L. Will and R. Lührmann
- 14 Uridine Insertion/Deletion RNA Editing as a Paradigm for Site-specific Modifications of RNA Molecules, 401
L. Simpson
- 15 Telomerase RNA, 419
E.H. Blackburn
- 16 The Shapely mRNA: Knotting Ventured, Knotting Gained, 437
J.F. Atkins, R.F. Gesteland, R.J. Jackson, and N.M. Wills

RNA CONTINUES TO TRIUMPH OVER DNA

- 17 Group II Introns: Ribozymes That Splice RNA and Invade DNA, 469
A.M. Pyle and A.M. Lambowitz

- 18 SINEs and LINEs: Troublemakers, Saboteurs, Benefactors, Ancestors, 507
A.M. Weiner
- 19 The Biology of Short RNAs, 535
C.P. Petersen, J.G. Doench, A. Grishok, and P.A. Sharp
- 20 Versatile Roles of Small RNA Regulators in Bacteria, 567
G. Storz and S. Gottesman
- 21 Large Noncoding RNAs in Mammalian Gene Dosage Regulation, 595
R.J. Spencer and J.T. Lee

EMERGING TOOLS

- 22 Predicting RNA Secondary Structure, 631
D.H. Mathews, S.J. Schroeder, D.H. Turner, and M. Zuker
- 23 A Modular and Hierarchical Approach for All-Atom RNA Modeling, 659
B. Masquida and E. Westhof
- 24 Automated In Vitro Selection and Microarray Applications for Functional RNA Sequences, 683
A.D. Ellington, J.C. Cox, J.F. Lee, and J.R. Collett
- 25 RNA Folding, Unfolding, and Dynamics, One Molecule at a Time, 721
I. Tinoco, Jr. and B. Onoa

Appendix, 747

Index, 753