
CONTENTS

Prologue 1

I: WHY DOES ADVANCED SOCIAL LIFE EXIST?

1. The Human Condition 7

II: WHERE DO WE COME FROM?

2. The Two Paths to Conquest 13
3. The Approach 21
4. The Arrival 33
5. Threading the Evolutionary Maze 45
6. The Creative Forces 49
7. Tribalism Is a Fundamental Human Trait 57
8. War as Humanity's Hereditary Curse 62
9. The Breakout 77
10. The Creative Explosion 85
11. The Sprint to Civilization 97

III: HOW SOCIAL INSECTS CONQUERED THE INVERTEBRATE WORLD

12. The Invention of Eusociality 109
13. Inventions That Advanced the Social Insects 120

IV: THE FORCES OF SOCIAL EVOLUTION

- 14. The Scientific Dilemma of Rarity 133
- 15. Insect Altruism and Eusociality Explained 139
- 16. Insects Take the Giant Leap 148
- 17. How Natural Selection Creates Social Instincts 158
- 18. The Forces of Social Evolution 166
- 19. The Emergence of a New Theory of Eusociality 183

V: WHAT ARE WE?

- 20. What Is Human Nature? 191
- 21. How Culture Evolved 212
- 22. The Origins of Language 225
- 23. The Evolution of Cultural Variation 236
- 24. The Origins of Morality and Honor 241
- 25. The Origins of Religion 255
- 26. The Origins of the Creative Arts 268

VI: WHERE ARE WE GOING?

- 27. A New Enlightenment 287

Acknowledgments 301

References 303

Index 327