

# **New Titles**

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requires genetic analysis of the focal species and all potential ancestors. Without the capacity to conduct such analyses for most fossil fauna, I would expect a more cautionary or measured interpretation of speciation models and mechanisms to be applied to the examples in the book.

In addition, the discussions of evolutionary processes in well-studied extant systems are overly simplified. I also found that the last two chapters introduce confusion between the geographical mode of speciation (allopatric or sympatric) and microevolutionary mechanisms (e.g., drift and selection). The book ends abruptly without a concluding section; such a section could have identified current, exciting avenues of research in extinct island mammal fauna or might have summarized the present gaps in our scientific knowledge of the subject, in order to steer the direction of future research.

Despite these shortcomings, *Evolution of Island Mammals* provides a rich source of detailed information for graduate students and researchers studying either extinct or extant island species. It is generously illustrated and nicely presented. Island biota will continue to provide a fascinating arena for the study of evolution, and this book highlights the value of taking a broader view than the brief snapshot in time provided by contemporary insular biota alone.

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Behavior of North American Mammals. Mark Elbroch and Kurt Rinehart. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011. 384 pp., illus. \$35.00 (ISBN 9780618883455 cloth).

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Molecular Panbiogeography of the Tropics. Michael Heads. University

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Trees of Life: A Visual History of Evolution. Theodore W. Pietsch. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2012. 384 pp., illus. \$69.95 (ISBN 9781421404790 cloth).

