THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES VIEWED AFTER 150 YEARS

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The Origin of Species is one of the classics of science. When he wrote it, Darwin took the first step in establishing an autonomous science of living matter, the field of study we call biology. But the book does more than provide the underpinning for all of biology. One of its implications is that human beings form part of the chain that links all living creatures via evolution. Because of this, there is no field of human enquiry, whether pertaining to science or culture, that it leaves untouched.