

DARWIN'S ORIGIN *of* SPECIES JANET BROWNE

READ BY JOSEPHINE BAILEY

No book has changed our conception of ourselves more than Charles Darwin's *Origin of Species*. It caused a sensation on its publication in 1859, selling out its entire print run in one day, and went on to become an international bestseller. The idea that living things, including humans, gradually evolve through natural selection profoundly shocked its Victorian readers, calling into question what had been for many the unshakeable belief that there was a Creator.

In this audiobook, Janet Browne shows why *The Origin of Species* can fairly claim to be the greatest science book ever published. Browne describes the long genesis of Darwin's theories, from his early readings as a university student and his five-year voyage on the *HMS Beagle*, to his debates with contemporaries and experiments in his garden. She explores the shock to Darwin when he read of a competing scientist's similar discoveries and the wide and immediate impact of Darwin's theories on the world.

Darwin's seminal work is nearly as controversial today as it was upon publication over a century ago, and it remains at the heart of an intense debate between scientists and creationists. Browne's illuminating history of *The Origin of Species* couldn't come at a more appropriate time.

Janet Browne is the author of *Voyaging* and *The Power of Place*, a landmark two-volume biography of Charles Darwin. She is the Aramont Professor in the History of Science at Harvard University.

Publishers Weekly named **Josephine Bailey** "best female narrator" in 2002. She is the winner of five *AudioFile* Earphones Awards and most recently won an Audie Award for Best Audio Drama.



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Running Time: 4.5 Hours
Unabridged

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