

# **Incomplete Nature How Mind Emerged From Matter Terrence W Deacon**

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## **Incomplete Nature How Mind Emerged**

Incomplete Nature: How Mind Emerged from Matter is a 2011 book by biological anthropologist Terrence Deacon. The book covers topics in biosemiotics , philosophy of mind , and the origins of life . Broadly, the book seeks to naturalistically explain " aboutness ", that is, concepts like intentionality , meaning, normativity , purpose, and function ; which Deacon groups together and labels as ententional phenomena.

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Incomplete Nature begins by accepting what other theories try to deny: that although mental contents do indeed lack these material-energetic properties, they are still entirely products of physical processes and have an unprecedented kind of causal power that is unlike anything physics and chemistry alone have so far explained. Paradoxically it is the intrinsic incompleteness of these semiotic and teleological phenomena that is the source of their unique form of physical influence in the world.

## **Incomplete Nature: Terrence W Deacon, Brian Holsopple**

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The title, "Incomplete Nature," bears a dual sense. It refers, first of all, to the incomplete pictures of nature so far yielded by materialism and idealism alike. In this guise, the work proposes itself as a third alternative, a prolegomena to a complete explanation of mind that formulates the criteria by which we can recognize when we've reached explanatory completeness.

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## **Incomplete Nature: How Mind Emerged from Matter | Anthropology**

“A tour de force encompassing biology, neurobiology, metaphysics, information theory, physics, and semiotics.”— Publishers Weekly , Incomplete Nature, How Mind Emerged from Matter, Terrence W Deacon, 9780393343908

## **Incomplete Nature | Terrence W Deacon | W. W. Norton & Company**

Incomplete Nature: How Mind Emerged from Matter. “. . . the elusive intangibles of consciousness, values, ideas, intent, anticipation may finally get properly linked to the organ they arise from, be measured and understood, which will bring humanity to its next level of development. Incomplete Nature gives scientists the groundwork to build upon; and, for the rest of us, a preview of what the future holds.”.

## **Incomplete Nature: How Mind Emerged from Matter**

Incomplete Nature: How Mind Emerged from Matter Terrence W. Deacon, W.W. Norton & Company, 624 pages, \$29.95 When I first read “The Selfish Gene,” Richard Dawkins’s classic work on reducing living phenomena to “selfish” interactions between specialized molecules, I felt betrayed. I asked my high school teacher, how can this be it?

## **Incomplete Nature - The Berkeley Science Review**

Incomplete Nature meticulously traces the emergence of this special causal capacity from simple thermodynamics to self-organizing dynamics to living and mental dynamics, and it demonstrates how specific absences (or constraints) play the critical causal role in the organization of physical processes that generate these properties. The book’s radically challenging

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conclusion is that we are made of these specific absences such stuff as dreams are made on and that what is not immediately present ...

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The mind, even the protomind of lower organisms, is the locus of information about constraints on natural processes that an organism exploits to achieve its ends of maintenance and reproduction. Integrating the mind into nature reconciles the physical and the meaningful and solves the mind—body problem.

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The conclusion: consciousness and the self are teleodynamic processes defined by the informational constraints they place on the dynamical phase-space of the organism by their anti-entropic (and thus function-creating) nature. Being anti-entropic means being fundamentally incomplete (kept from resting level).

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Incomplete Nature: How Mind Emerged from Matter by Terrence W. Deacon Norton, 602 pp., \$29.95 Châteaux de Versailles et de Trianon/RMN/Art Resource René Antoine Houasse: Birth of Minerva, Fully Armed, from the Head of Jupiter; late seventeenth century Incomplete Nature is about an important and difficult subject: how life and mind

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Incomplete Nature: How Mind Emerged from Matter by Terrence W. Deacon Author: Paul H. Carr Journal: Zygon® Issue Date: 2013 Page: 232-234

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Aching Voids and Making Voids A review of Incomplete Nature: How Mind Emerged from Matter by Terrence W. Deacon Review by: Daniel C. Dennett The Quarterly Review of Biology, Vol. 88, No. 4 (December 2013), pp. 321-324

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