

overview of African mammals (16 pages) and humans (11 pages) evolving through time. The text is enlivened throughout by Antón's drawings, paintings, and photographs, which provide a complementary narrative of their own through the whole book.

The subtitle informs readers that *Evolving Eden* is about large mammals, and it might well have included the word Neogene because the book starts, effectively, in the Miocene. The North African Paleocene and Eocene is never mentioned, and the Fayum Oligocene is mentioned principally because of *Arsinoitherium* (*Aegyptopithecus* is omitted unless, as seems likely, the "Apidium" in one figure is really *Aegyptopithecus*). Elisabeth Vrba wrote the foreword, which raised my hope that the last chapter might include a substantial discussion of her "turnover pulse" hypothesis, but this too receives little more than a brief mention.

African large mammals are the classic "charismatic megafauna," and the subject of their evolution is too large to cover in a book of this length. To their credit, Turner and Antón have done it partly by stepping lightly and partly by directing the reader's attention to additional publications. This strategy might be just right for beginning undergraduates or first-time African visitors. Others will soon be pursuing leads in the bibliography.

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A FIELD GUIDE TO THE MAMMALS OF AUSTRALIA. *Second Edition.*

By Peter Menkhorst and Frank Knight. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press. \$29.95 (paper). x + 278 p; ill.; indexes to scientific and common names. ISBN: 0-19-555037-4. 2004.

THE HUNT FOR THE DAWN MONKEY: UNEARTHING THE ORIGINS OF MONKEYS, APES, AND HUMANS.

By Chris Beard; illustrated by Mark Klingler. Berkeley (California): University of California Press. \$27.50. xv + 348 p + 14 pl; ill.; index. ISBN: 0-520-23369-7. 2004.

In this book, the author explores the phylogenetic origin of anthropoid primates (monkeys, apes, and humans), one of the more vexatious and hotly debated topics in primatology and biological anthropology. Anthropoid origins is an area in which molecular, morphological, and biogeographic data engender conflicting conclusions among the major players in the field, many of whom have radically different philosophical leanings toward systematic methodology. Beard is one of these major players, having discovered *Eosimias*,

a controversial fossil primate from Eocene deposits of China that has been suggested to be the earliest known anthropoid. He uses this book, which is intended for both academic and popular audiences, as an opportunity to forcefully advocate for the priority of *Eosimias* as the earliest anthropoid, as well as the necessarily related conclusion that anthropoids first evolved in Asia, not Africa as has been long thought. Much of his argument is based on his intimate knowledge of the morphology of fossil primates, and the evolution of dental traits that are likely phylogenetically significant. The highly detailed descriptions of primate dental characters may overwhelm the uninitiated, but nonspecialists can skim these passages and still retain the gist of the argument. There are also numerous delightful historical tangents on the discoverers of important fossils and why they thought what they thought based on the very limited information they had available at the time—all of which relate back to Beard's main thesis. Lastly, *The Hunt for the Dawn Monkey* is beautifully, if sparsely, illustrated with fleshed-out naturalistic reconstructions of several fossil primates by artist Mark Klingler.

My major complaint about this book is that Beard is not always kind (although possibly fair) to those with whom he disagrees. His principal target is Elwyn Simons, the legendary paleontologist who is largely responsible for discovering most of what is known about early anthropoid evolution today. For decades, Simons has zealously argued for the primacy and importance of his fossils from North Africa and the African origin of all anthropoids. Beard takes Simons to task in an entire chapter, which unfortunately detracts from an otherwise enjoyable book.

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THE CULTURED CHIMPANZEE: REFLECTIONS ON CULTURAL PRIMATOLOGY.

By W C McGrew. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press. \$90.00 (hardcover); \$29.99 (paper). xiii + 248 p; ill.; author and subject indexes. ISBN: 0-521-82841-4 (hc); 0-521-53543-3 (pb). 2004.

Do species other than humans have culture? What is the origin of human culture? Researchers in at least four different disciplines (anthropology, archeology, psychology, and zoology) may have something to contribute here, argues McGrew in this new book. Each will have their own way of tackling the problem, and each may reach different conclusions depending on definitions, research methodologies, and types of evidence considered. This book, the followup to McGrew's seminal *Chimpanzee Material Culture: Implications for Human Evolution* (1992. Cambridge (UK): Cambridge Univer-