

# EVOLUTIONARY ANAGRAMS

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Only three phrases on evolutionary topics are anagrammed in the **Word Ways** Monograph "The New Anagrammasia":

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST tut! this life favors vet! (Viking);  
 evolve thus: fit at first (E.S.Crow, Nov 1911); o, sir, that  
 "tuff" vet lives (Moonshine, Mar 1919)  
 ENDANGERED SPECIES green spaces end! die! (Ruthless, Mar 1990);  
 speeds a generic end (Ab Struse, Feb 1989)  
 THE MISSING LINK 'tis nigh men's ilk (D.C.Ver, Dec 1926)

The authors are identified by their pseudonyms in the National Puzzlers' League, and the dates refer to publication in their monthly magazine, *The Enigma*. (The Viking anagram appeared in Howard Bergerson's Palindromes and Anagrams (Dover, 1973) with no earlier attribution.) Since publication of "The New Anagrammasia" in 1991, two more evolutionary anagrams have appeared in *The Enigma*:

ONTOGENY RECAPITULATES PHYLOGENY you get phony ancestral-type  
 lingo (Merlin, Jan 1993)  
 THE PRIMORDIAL OOZE mire "I hold protozoa" (Non Sequitur, June  
 1993)

Here is my contribution to this genre:

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST [the] fit oft survive last  
 ENDANGERED SPECIES danger scene espied!  
 THE MISSING LINK this gem links in!  
 ONTOGENY RECAPITULATES PHYLOGENY young copy lineage-holy  
 'set pattern'  
 EVOLUTION on! outlive!  
 THE LIVING PLANET 'e plant live thing  
 GEOLOGICAL TIME SCALE lo, see climatic age log  
 FOSSIL RECORD old forces, sir!  
 SYSTEMA NATURAE ay, nature's teams  
 THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES I choose 'gene sift' rip  
 CHROMOSOMES me 'homo' cross  
 NATURAL SELECTION orates innate cull; I elect annual sort  
 NOMOGENESIS so I'm on genes  
 IN DANGER OF EXTINCTION no din - frantic exit - gone!

It is to be hoped that this last one remains an antigram, at least for the foreseeable future!

LIFE ON EARTH or the finale?