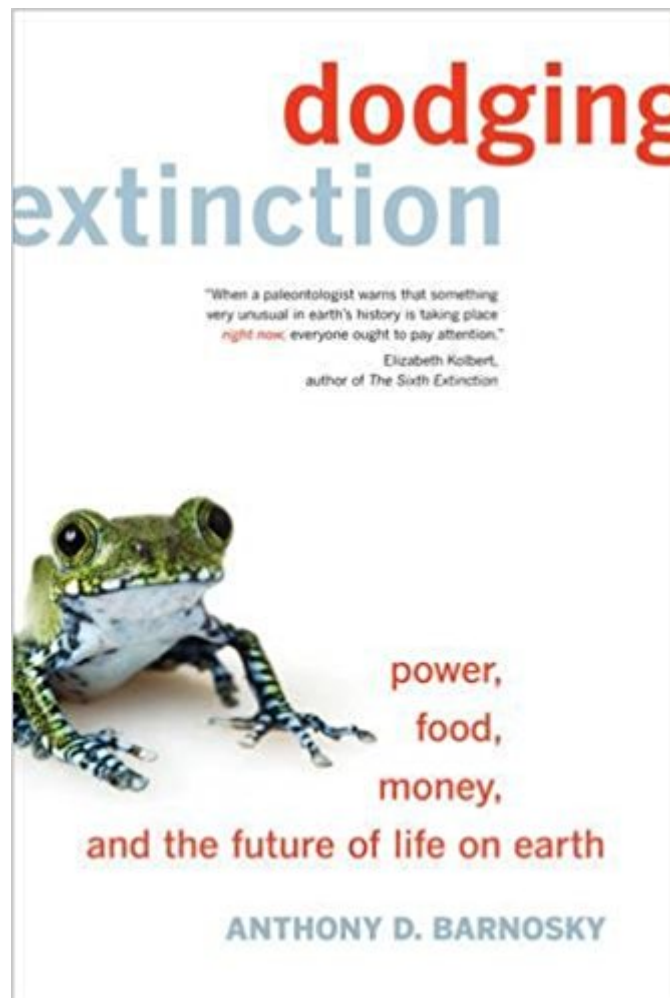




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# Dodging Extinction: Power, Food, Money, And The Future Of Life On Earth



## Synopsis

Paleobiologist Anthony D. Barnosky weaves together evidence from the deep past and the present to alert us to the looming Sixth Mass Extinction and to offer a practical, hopeful plan for avoiding it. Writing from the front lines of extinction research, Barnosky tells the overarching story of geologic and evolutionary history and how it informs the way humans inhabit, exploit, and impact Earth today. He presents compelling evidence that unless we rethink how we generate the power we use to run our global ecosystem, where we get our food, and how we make our money, we will trigger what would be the sixth great extinction on Earth, with dire consequences. Optimistic that we can change this ominous forecast if we act now, Barnosky provides clear-cut strategies to guide the planet away from global catastrophe. In many instances the necessary technology and know-how already exist and are being applied to crucial issues around human-caused climate change, feeding the world's growing population, and exploiting natural resources. Deeply informed yet accessibly written, *Dodging Extinction* is nothing short of a guidebook for saving the planet.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A superior synthesis of recent research from many scientific disciplines, this eloquent book could serve as a model for how scientists should write for nonspecialists about the critical environmental challenges of our time. An excellent companion to Elizabeth Kolbert's *The Sixth Extinction*." (Library Journal 2014-09-01)"A pragmatic approach to finding workable solutions to a looming crisis." (Kirkus Reviews 2014-08-15)"Powerful and passionate prose. . . . Time may be short, but this is a message of hope for readers looking for a better future." (Publishers Weekly

2014-08-18)"Beautifully written. . . . A very learned book, but it's very approachable and fun. . . .  
Anyone who is interested in the future of the planet or loves animals should check this one out ."  
-Annalee Newitz, The Best Science Books of 2014 (Science Friday 2014-12-12)"A rattling read and  
punchily packaged. Barnosky's prose is tight and accessible, and it lays the crisis on the line." (New  
Scientist 2014-12-08)"Well-written and accessible . . . Barnosky provides an informed perspective of  
Earth's past mass extinctions and the lessons that can be learned from them to understand the  
present crises . . . A must read for college students and a well-informed citizenry." (C. A. McRoberts  
CHOICE 2015-05-01)"Barnosky provides a long list of things we need to do to move to more  
efficient energy use." (Word & World)

• A lucid examination of what we know about the state of life on our planet by one of our  
best-informed authorities, Dodging Extinction makes a compelling and refreshingly optimistic case  
for how to face the great challenges that lie ahead. Anthony Barnosky's book is essential  
reading for all those who hope to shape a brighter future. • Sean B. Carroll,  
author of Endless Forms Most Beautiful: The New Science of Evo Devo and Remarkable Creatures:  
Epic Adventures in the Search for the Origin of Species • As overpopulation and  
overconsumption by the rich push civilization toward the brink, most intelligent people are focusing  
their attention on the looming climate catastrophe. Scientists know from the geological record that  
Earth's climate can stabilize after disruption in a hundred thousand years or less. In contrast,  
regeneration of the biodiversity that runs human life-support systems would take millions of years if  
the great extinction episode now under way is allowed to run its course. Anthony Barnosky's  
wonderful book will bring you up to date on how we might deal with this climate-related ultimate  
disaster. Dodging Extinction should be assigned as freshman reading in every college and  
university. • Paul R. Ehrlich, author of The Population Bomb and coauthor of Extinctions  
• Dodging Extinction approaches our global extinction crisis by exposing the gap between  
short-term gains and long-term security. Offering concrete solutions to halt dramatic biodiversity  
loss, Barnosky demonstrates how we can improve people's lives today for a future in which all  
life—people, animals, plants—can endure. • Mark R. Tercek, President and CEO of The  
Nature Conservancy and author of Nature's Fortune: How Business and Nature Thrive by  
Investing in Nature • When a paleontologist warns that something very unusual in Earth's  
history is taking place right now, everyone ought to pay attention. Dodging Extinction should serve  
as a wake-up call to the world. • Elizabeth Kolbert, author of The Sixth Extinction and Field Notes  
from a Catastrophe • Anthony Barnosky has written an adventure story for our times. The

quest: survival of a full suite of Earth's current species, including Homo sapiens. The outcome: for us to decide. In conversational prose, Barnosky digs deeply into the scientist's perspective on our dire challenges. His explanations don't shirk complexity, yet he makes them easy to understand. To each problem, he proposes a doable solution. Read Dodging Extinction for clarity, inspiration, and to see the way forward. • Mary Ellen Hannibal, author of The Spine of the Continent: The Race to Save America's Last, Best Wilderness

This was an excellent read and appropriate for all audiences, regardless of education level. The author explains concepts in a clear and appropriate manner, cites all facts with peer-reviewed scientific literature, and neatly ties together many aspects of economics, science, and politics into an enjoyable read. The book does a wonderful job of accurately portraying the seriousness that is climate change, while suggesting meaningful and appropriate measure anyone can take to help improve the situation.

Excellent, it helps me bring into focus the need for "local" recognition of the realities of climate change, TODAY!!! Right now and locally, all around us. Dr. Dirt, Ph.D, UCB 1972

Very informative book on the current stage of global climate. The results provided by the author based on scientific papers are shocking, if not terrifying. The resolutions to climate change offered by the author are mostly theoretical, which only makes me concerned about global climate change.

It's a good easy read which frames the issues confronting us on the Biodiversity side of human impact. We are in a Mass Extinction RIGHT NOW. This book shows us why and what we ALL need to be thinking about to change that.

great product and service

A long, long view of our current predicament. Could serve as a companion to Laudato Si of Francis.

A great argument for change in understanding humanity's impact on the planet

Excellent.

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