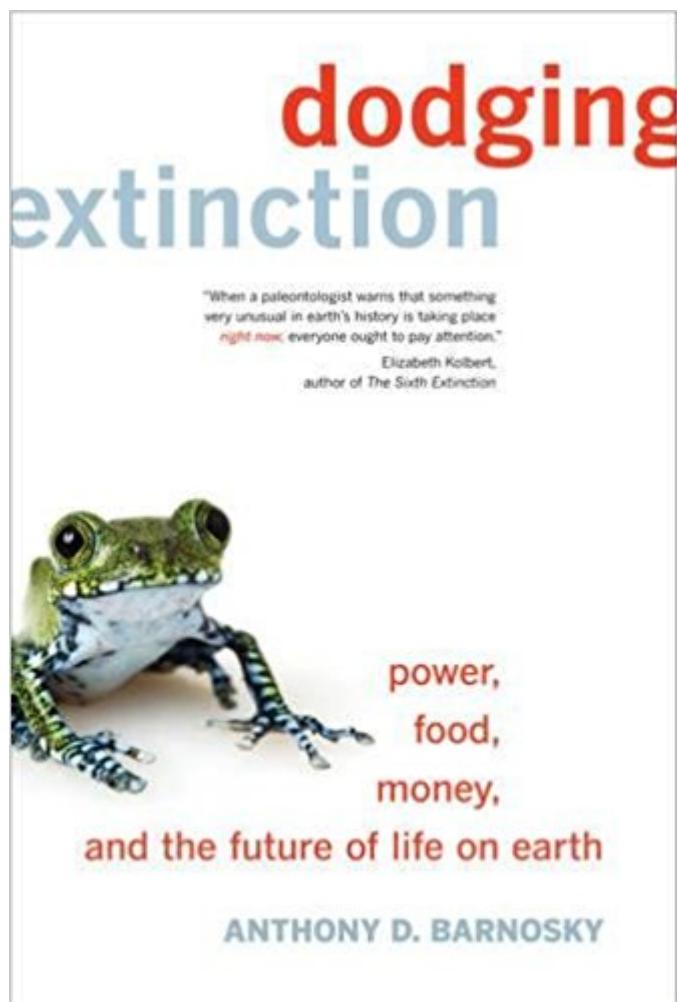


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# Dodging Extinction: Power, Food, Money, And The Future Of Life On Earth



## 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. . . . Â 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 Earthâ™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 Barnoskyâ™s book is essential reading for all those who hope to shape&#151;and see&#151;a brighter future.â • 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* &#147;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 Earthâ™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 Barnoskyâ™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.â • Paul R. Ehrlich, author of *The Population Bomb* and coauthor of *Extinctions* &#147;*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 peopleâ™s lives today for a future in which all life&#151;people, animals, plants&#151;can endure.â • Mark R. Tercek, President and CEO of The Nature Conservancy and author of *Natureâ™s Fortune: How Business and Nature Thrive by Investing in Nature* &#147;When a paleontologist warns that something very unusual in Earthâ™s history is taking place right now, everyone ought to pay attention. *Dodging Extinction* should serve as a wake-up call to the world.â • Elizabeth Kolbert, author of *The Sixth Extinction and Field Notes from a Catastrophe* &#147;Anthony Barnosky has written an adventure story for our times. The

quest: survival of a full suite of Earthâ™s current species, including *Homo sapiens*. The outcome: for us to decide. In conversational prose, Barnosky digs deeply into the scientistâ™s perspective on our dire challenges. His explanations donâ™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.â • Mary Ellen Hannibal, author of *The Spine of the Continent: The Race to Save Americaâ™s Last, Best Wilderness* Â

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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