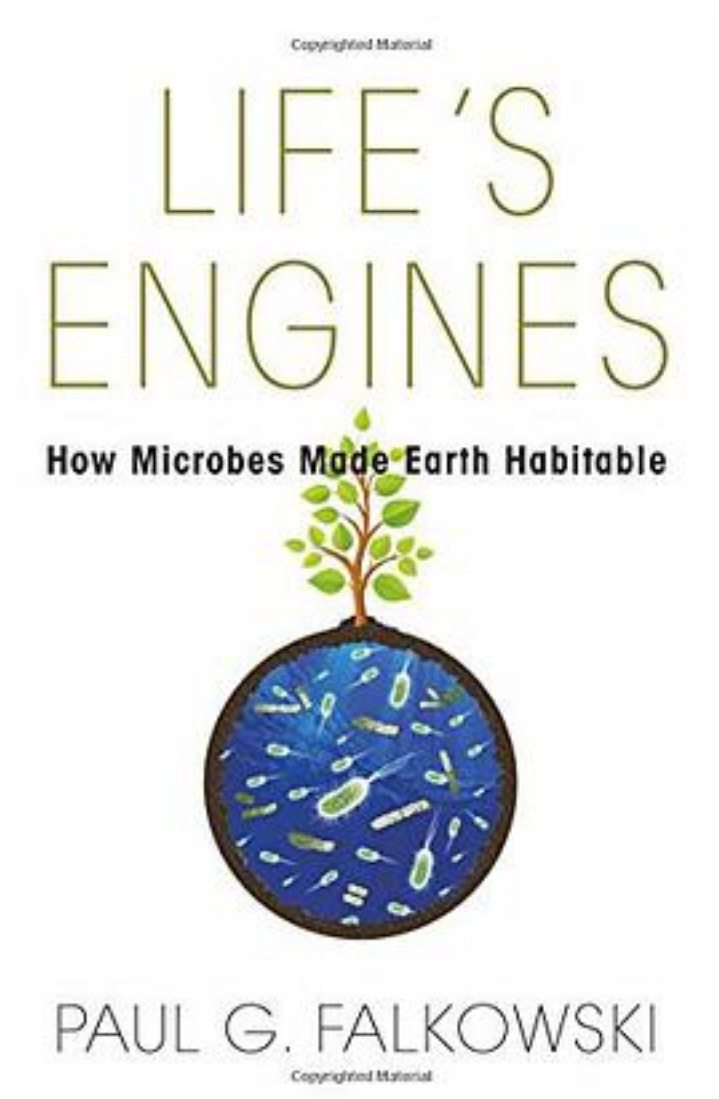


Life's Engines



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著者:Paul G. Falkowski

出版者:Princeton University Press

出版时间:2015-4-27

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9780691155371

For almost four billion years, microbes had the primordial oceans all to themselves. The stewards of Earth, these organisms transformed the chemistry of our planet to make it habitable for plants, animals, and us. Life's Engines takes readers deep into the microscopic world to explore how these marvelous creatures made life on Earth possible – and how human life today would cease to exist without them.

Paul Falkowski looks "under the hood" of microbes to find the engines of life, the actual working parts that do the biochemical heavy lifting for every living organism on Earth. With insight and humor, he explains how these miniature engines are built – and how they have been appropriated by and assembled like Lego sets within every creature that walks, swims, or flies. Falkowski shows how evolution works to maintain this core machinery of life, and how we and other animals are veritable conglomerations of microbes.

A vibrantly entertaining book about the microbes that support our very existence, Life's Engines will inspire wonder about these elegantly complex nanomachines that have driven life since its origin. It also issues a timely warning about the dangers of tinkering with that machinery to make it more "efficient" at meeting the ever-growing demands of humans in the coming century.

作者介绍:

Paul G. Falkowski holds the Bennett L. Smith Chair in Business and Natural Resources at Rutgers University, where he studies how microbes have shaped the history of Earth. He lives in Princeton, New Jersey.

目录:

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标签

地球历史

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评论

play商店购买的第一本正版图书！讲微生物如何改变世界，甚至说我们本身就是由微生物构成的！且不说人体的消化道里包含了大量的微生物，帮助我们更好的消化和吸收。实际上，真核生物的细胞里的线粒体和叶绿体以前就是独立的微生物。线粒体就像发动机，只发明了一次，然后安装在轮船汽车飞机上……

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书评

犹记得硕士面试的时候收到老师的一个问题：你觉得科学是什么？我的回答是：科学就是将书本上的知识发挥出来。现在想来，确是有些书呆子气了。倘若将书本知识奉若真理，无论是实干还是科研，均难以成事。实干家讲究“实践出真知”，而科学家讲究“质疑与创新”，无论哪位莫不与...

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