cumulative selection, the computer quickly comes up with the desired sentence.

There are many examples in the book in which the author takes an old problem, like the one mentioned above, and by using a very original metaphor, makes us see it in a completely new light. Personally, I like best his discussion of punctuated equilibria versus gradualism, in which he compares it to an imagined quarrel between biblical scholars about the way the Exodus took place; did the Israelites take 40 years to get from Egypt to the promised land because they traveled 24 yards per day or because they spent most of their time camped, not moving at all. In other words, the punctualist-gradualist debate is a pseudoproblem, because nobody in his right mind believes in the kind of gradualism the punctualists fight against.

This book is a sheer pleasure to read, not only for its contents but also for the style in which it is written. Dawkins' trick is to make you believe that he is *talking* to you, rather than writing. You get the impression that he just put his thoughts down on paper and sent them off to the publisher. But I am sure this is not the case, for nobody talks as beautifully as Dawkins writes. Undoubtedly he sweats over his manuscripts just like everyone else, but while in most works the traces of sweat show through in the final product, Dawkins' book comes out sparkling, as if fresh from the laundry.

There are books that you look forward to so much that you postpone reading them until you are in the right mood so as to enjoy them even more. *The Blind Watchmaker* made a memorable Christmas for me, and I very much look forward to Dawkins' Ninth Symphony.

Jan Klein

Errata

Isolation, expression, and the primary structure of *HLA-Cw1* and *HLA-Cw2* genes: evolutionary aspects

Detlef Güssow, Rita S. Rein, Ingeborg Meijer, Wout de Hoog, Gerhard H. A. Seemann, Frans M. Hochstenbach, and Hidde L. Ploegh

Immunogenetics 25: 313–322, 1987

In Figure 5 (pp. 318–319) of this article, the amino acid sequence for HLA-Cw1 is Trp (W) instead of Ser (S) at position 167 and Met (M) instead of Val (V) at position 248. Moreover, the second to last line on page 319 should read Leu-Ala-Val instead of Lys-Ala-Val.

Antigenic determinants shared between HLA-A, -B, -C antigens and H-2 class I molecules modified by bovine beta-2 microglobulin

Rudolf Mierau, Peter J. Robinson, Arnold R. Sanderson, Ekkehard Genth, and Matthias Cramer

Immunogenetics 26: 351–355, 1987

In this article the designation on the vertical axis (ordinate) of Figure 1 should read “relative cell number” and the designation on the horizontal axis (abscissa) of Figure 1 should read “relative fluorescence (log)” instead of the faulty designations given in the printed version.