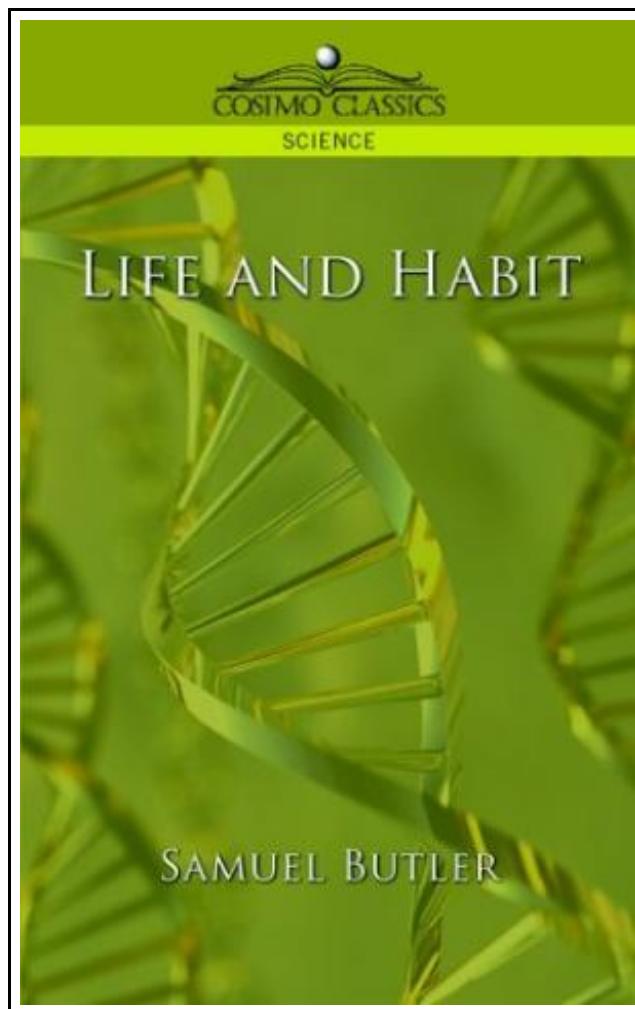


Life and Habit



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Reviews

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COSIMO CLASSICS, United States, 2005. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 200 x 124 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.I cannot think that natural selection, working upon small, fortuitous, indefinite, unintelligent variations, would produce the results we see around us. One wants something that will give a more definite aim to variations, and hence, at times, cause bolder leaps in advance. One cannot but doubt whether so many plants and animals would be being so continually saved by the skin of their teeth. . -from Lamarck and Mr. Darwin George Bernard Shaw called him the greatest English writer of the latter half of the nineteenth century. Samuel Butler, the son of an Anglican clergyman who grew up to be one of the most prominent freethinkers of the Victorian era, was a vocal apologist for theism, and his *Life and Habit*, published in 1877, is a beautifully written critique of Charles Darwin and his theory of natural selection, one that laments its lack of call for a creative mind behind the evolution of life. This is a vital work for appreciating Butler's other criticisms of scientific rationalism, including his 1879 book *Evolution, Old and New*, as well as the evolution of the concept of evolution itself. Also available from Cosimo Classics: Butler's *God the Known and God the Unknown*. British author SAMUEL BUTLER (1835-1902) is best known for his satire *Erewhon*.

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