

**Eörs Szathmáry** is an evolutionary biologist whose research covers a broad range of topics, from the origin of life and the origin of multicellularity, to the evolution of language and societies, to astrobiology, making extensive use of mathematical modelling. He is the co-author of the seminal book *The Major* Transitions in Evolution with John Maynard Smith, which journeys from the incipient stages of life as replicating molecules to the advent of eukaryotic cells and the establishment of social and cultural groups. He is currently a professor at the Department for Plant Taxonomy and Ecology at the Eötvos University in Budapest, Hungary, and the director of the Parmenides Center for the Conceptual Foundations of Science in Munich, Germany. Previously he was a guest at the Wissenschafstkolleg zu Berlin, the University of Zurich, and the College de France

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