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Why is 'blood thicker than water'? Are we innately violent or pacific? Why are plants and animals sexual? Why do we grow old and die? Such questions have motivated the life-work of W.D. Hamilton, widely acknowledged as the most important theoretical biologist of the 20th century. His papers continue to exert an enormous influence and they are now being republished for the first time. This first volume contains all of Hamilton's publications prior to 1981, a set especially relevant to social behavior, kinship theory, sociobiology, and the notion of 'selfish genes'. Each paper is introduced by an autobiographical essay written especially for this collection. Accessible to non-specialists, this fascinating volume features several of the most read and famous papers of modern biology.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **About the Author**

W. D. Hamilton is a Royal Society Research Professor in the Department of Zoology at the University of Oxford. He is known throughout the world for his work on social evolution and sexual selection. He is a fellow of the Royal Society and a Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. W.D. Hamilton, Department of Zoology, University of Oxford, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3PS. Tel. 01865-271166.

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