

The Descent of Man
Charles Darwin

Read "Origin of the Species" first

Darwin's classic "Origin of the Species" stands alone. In it Darwin advanced most of his theses that apply to human evolution. This book is merely an elaboration. One feels more acutely the gaps in human knowledge in Darwin's time. They did not have the fossil record of humanity, the linguistic studies to trace how populations had moved, and certainly not such tools as DNA analysis or even blood typing.

My advice to a reader would be, start with "Origin." If your appetite is not whetted, come back for this expansion on the thesis as it applies to human beings. For a modern text written for broad audiences, try Nicholas Wade's *A Troublesome Inheritance* and *Before the Dawn*. Also check out Harpending and Cochran's *The 10,000 Year Explosion*.