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## Lynn Margulis

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(born **Lynn Petra Alexander**; March 5, 1938 – November 22, 2011) was an American ***evolutionary theorist and biologist, science author, educator, and popularizer***, and was the primary modern proponent for the significance of symbiosis in evolution. In particular, Margulis transformed and fundamentally framed current understanding of the ***evolution of cells with nuclei*** – an event Ernst Mayr called "perhaps the most important and dramatic event in the history of life – by proposing it to have been the result of symbiotic mergers of bacteria.