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ON THE COVER: THE RELATIONSHIPS OF THE MAJOR GROUPS OF ARCHOSAURS. THE SILHOUETTES REPRESENT CLADES OF DIVERSE AND DISPARATE ARCHOSAURS LARGELY FROM THE TRIASSIC. THE THICKER BRANCHES REPRESENT THE TWO MAJOR LINEAGES OF ARCHOSAURS, THE CROCODYLIAN-LINE ARCHOSAURS TO THE LEFT AND THE AVIAN-LINE ARCHOSAURS TO THE RIGHT. TODAY, ARCHOSAURS ARE REPRESENTED ONLY BY BIRDS AND CROCODYLIANS AND THESE TWO GROUPS ARE JUST REMNANTS OF AN EXPANSIVE GROUP OF REPTILES WITH A DEEP EVOLUTIONARY HISTORY DATING BACK TO NEARLY 250 MILLION YEARS AGO.

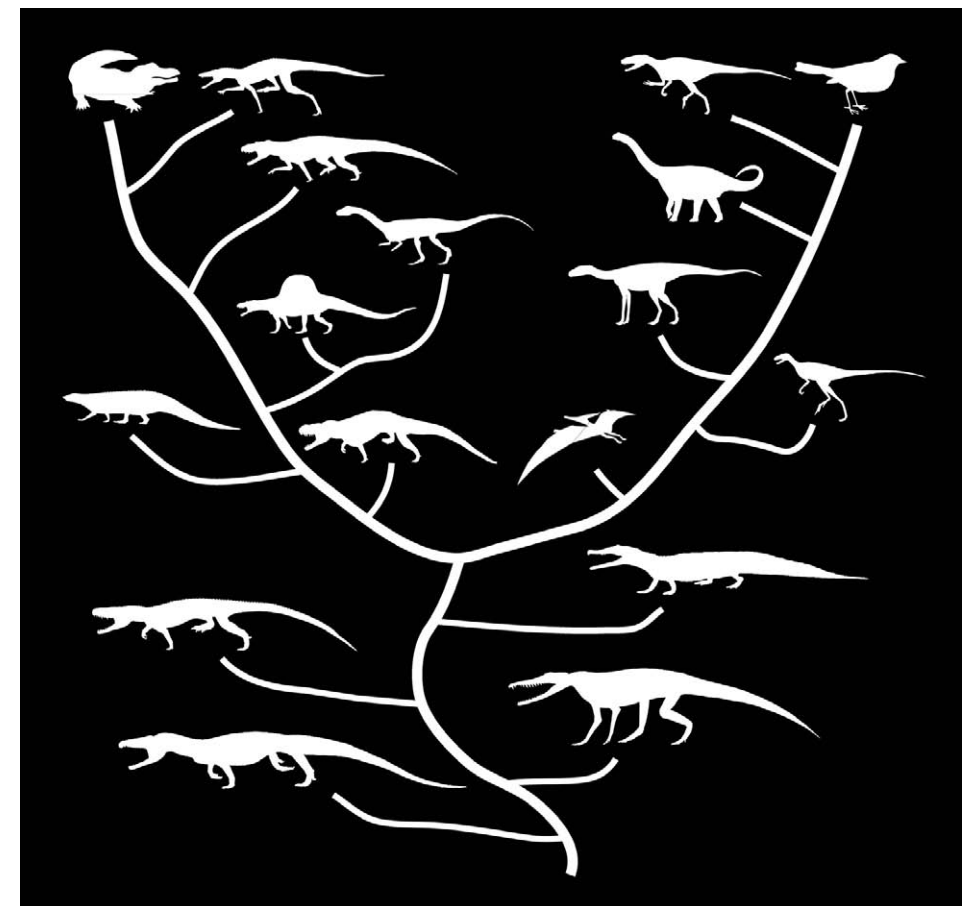
NESBITT: EARLY EVOLUTION OF ARCHOSAURS

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THE EARLY EVOLUTION OF ARCHOSAURS
RELATIONSHIPS AND THE ORIGIN
OF MAJOR CLADES

STERLING J. NESBITT



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