

**From:** Martin Nowak <[REDACTED]>  
**To:** Corina Tarnita <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jeevacation <jeevacation@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re:  
**Date:** Tue, 16 Nov 2010 18:09:43 +0000

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and i can set it to the most beautiful  
and transcendent music  
yet written

On Nov 16, 2010, at 10:46 AM, Corina Tarnita wrote:

> defection is not necessarily bad. we think it's bad because locally  
> every species wants to preserve the status quo. but in the long run  
> defection might be necessary to lead to evolvability and complexity.  
> that's why after billions of years of evolution we still retain  
> within ourselves the ability to defect.  
>  
> so i think the right question is not "what can we do to defend  
> ourselves against defection?" but rather "how much defection is  
> needed for evolvability?"  
>  
> c