

Edison *didn't* Invent the Light Bulb

Thomas Edison simply improved upon a principle others had discovered and worked on for years.

Furthermore...

- Cleopatra was not Egyptian.
- Darwin did not originate the idea of evolution.
- Lindbergh did not make the first nonstop transatlantic flight.
- Robert Fulton did not invent the steamboat.
- It was not Marie Antoinette who said, "Let them eat cake."
- The Emancipation Proclamation did not free any slaves.
- Ostriches do not hide their heads in the sand.
- The first American colonists did not live in log cabins.
- Delilah did not cut Samson's hair.
- Galileo did not demonstrate any of his theories by dropping objects off the Leaning Tower.

All these nuggets are found in a fascinating book,
The Dictionary of Misinformation.

A miscellany of misinformation, misbelief, misconstruction and misquotation. This compendium of myths, misunderstandings and bits of pure buncombe is a delightful and entertaining tour through the world of, as the author puts it, "odd (or not so odd) *non*-facts, of only too-well-known untruths."

The articles range in length from a paragraph to a page and are arranged alphabetically for easy reference. Each entry gives the fact as falsely known plus the true facts, and frequently adds an interesting story behind the myth.

Written by Tom Burnam, a professor of English at Portland State University, and published by Crowell, the 302-page **Dictionary of Misinformation** has so intrigued the editors of SCIENCE NEWS that we are making it available to you through our book order service.

For reference, rumination and pure delight.

OVER 5,000 SOLD
TO SCIENCE NEWS READERS!

Science News Book Order Service
1719 N Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Please send _____ copy(s) of
The Dictionary of Misinformation.
I include a check, payable to Science
News Book Order Service, for \$18.95
plus \$1.00 handling (total \$19.95) for
each copy.

name _____

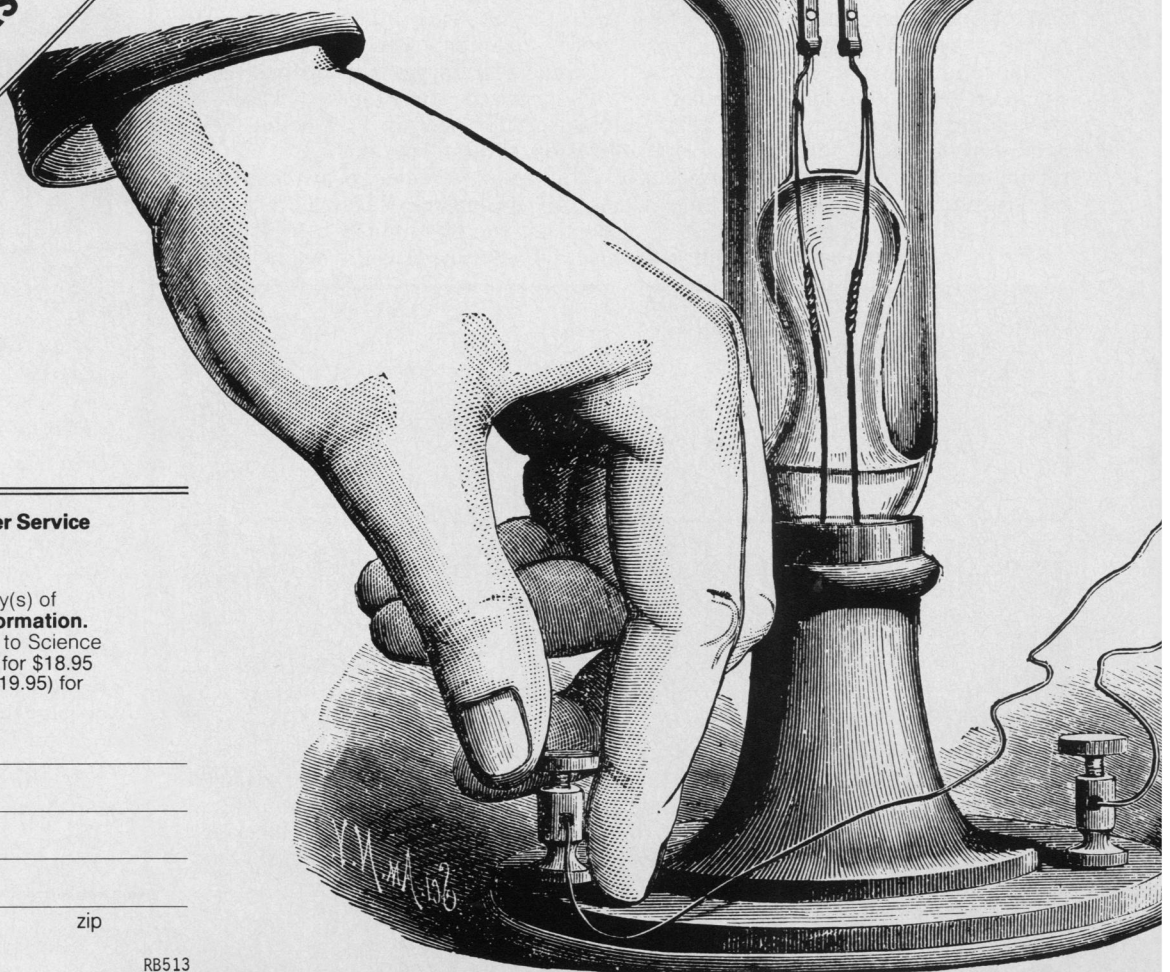
address _____

city _____

state _____

zip _____

RB513



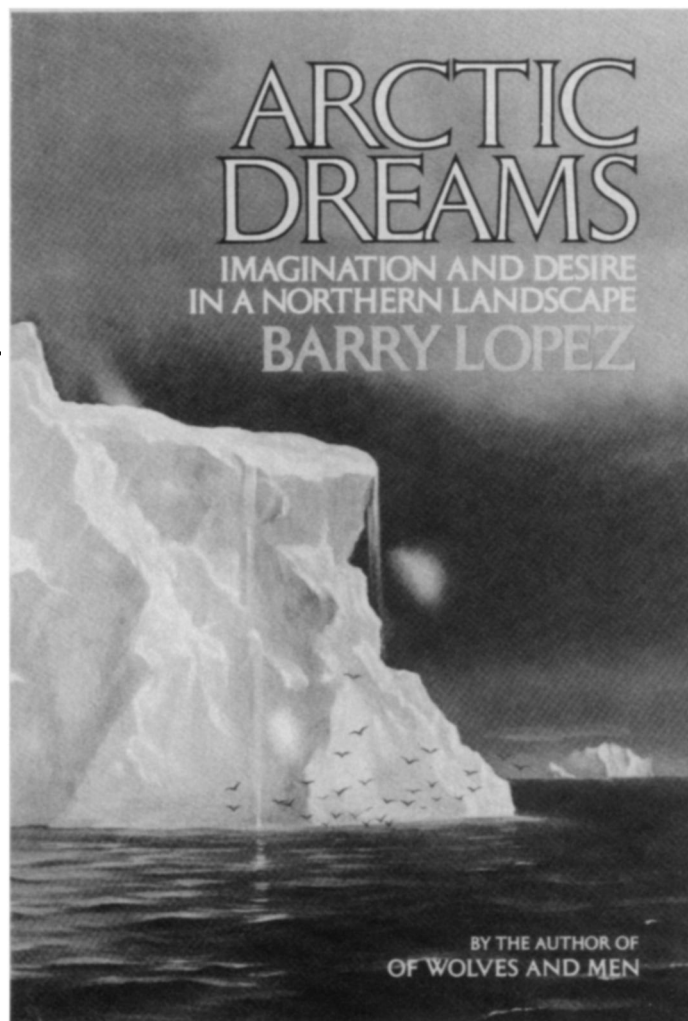
JOURNEY to a DREAM

Arctic Dreams is a celebration of the arctic landscape itself – of earth and sea and ice – and of the animals that live there. But this is also a book about dreams, about why people have gone to the Arctic and what they have found: the sixth-century Irish monks searching in open, single-masted boats for the Isles of the Blessed; Elizabethan sailors in search of a northwest passage trapped in winter darkness in implacable ice; Cook and Peary obsessed with reaching the Pole. What were they really in pursuit of? And today. What are we to make of this land?

Arctic Dreams is a monumental, magical book, a book about landscape at its most elemental and a book about man and his dreams. Unique in its vision, it is a book that asks what it means to live well. In the integrity of that land one finds an answer.

"ARCTIC DREAMS is a book about the Arctic North in the way that Moby Dick is a novel about whales. Though not a work of fiction, Barry Lopez's dazzling new volume treats the distant, snowy world of the Arctic as a place that exists not only in the mathematics of geography, but also in the terra incognita of our imaginations. It is his achievement in this book that he communicates to us a visceral sense of his own understanding and wonder, as well as an appreciation for this distant country that flickers insistently like a flashbulb afterimage in our minds long after we've finished reading."

— Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*



Scribner's, 1986, 464 pages, 9 1/4" x 6 1/4", hardcover, \$22.95

Science News Book Order Service

1719 N St., NW, Washington, DC 20036

Please send _____ copy(ies) of *Arctic Dreams*. I include a check payable to Science News Book Order Service for \$22.95 plus \$1.00 handling (total \$23.95) for each copy. Domestic orders only.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

R8514

IMPONDERABLES

Finally, answers to some of life's everyday mysteries such as . . .

Why do women open their mouths when applying mascara?

What does the "L.S." next to the signature line on contracts mean?

Why don't we ever see baby pigeons?

Which fruits are in Juicy Fruit chewing gum?

Why can't you ever buy fresh sardines in a fish market?

Why is June the most popular month for weddings?

Why does an X stand for a kiss?

Why do we eat ham at Easter?

Why are there two title pages in most books?

The Solution to the Mysteries of Everyday Life

by David Feldman

Dictionaries, encyclopedias and almanacs don't have the answers — **Imponderables** does! And in answering such questions, it touches on an astonishing variety of subjects, including sports, science, history, politics, television, radio and much more. No trivial pursuit, **Imponderables** takes a surprising, illuminating and humorous look at ourselves and the world around us.

Written in an informative and entertaining style and illustrated with drawings that are clearly to the point, **Imponderables** gets to the bottom of everyday life's mysteries.

— from the book

Morrow, 1986, 5³/₄" x 8³/₄", 262 pages, hard-cover, \$12.95

Science News Book Order Service

1719 N Street, NW

Washington, DC 20036

Please send _____ copy(ies) of **Imponderables**. If include a check payable to Science News Book Order Service for \$12.95 plus \$1.00 handling (total \$13.95) for each copy. Domestic orders only.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

RB511