

The Fabric of Mind

A Radical New Understanding of the Brain and How It Works

Richard Bergland

For 200 years, it has been conventional wisdom that all information is transmitted to the brain by electrical signals traveling along nerves, and that the brain, like a computer, processes the electrical information into thoughts. In *The Fabric of Mind* prominent neurosurgeon Bergland offers the revolutionary theory, already stirring controversy among fellow researchers, that the brain is actually a gland and depends on changes of hormones and molecules for its function. This theory opens new vistas in the frontiers of research into the brain and calls into question the techniques and principles of psychiatry, psychology, neurosurgery, neurophysiology and anatomy.

The implications of his theory are immense. Over the past decade, since the discovery that the brain produces the hormone endorphin, scientists have identified at least 45 hormones in the brain. These discoveries have given Bergland what he believes is incontrovertible evidence that the language of the mind is chemical, not electrical. While he does not deny that electrical impulses occur in the brain, they are only superficial signals, he says, and not as important in conveying messages to the brain, and within it, as hormones are. "It is hormones that modulate memory, pain, pleasure, love, appetite, satisfaction, sleep, digestion, sadness, anxiety," he says. "Our

thoughts, emotions and feelings are the result of many different hormones working in concert."

—*from the publisher*

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Viking, 1986, 9 1/2" x 6", 202 pages, hardcover, \$16.95

Thunderstones and Shooting Stars

The Meaning of Meteorites

Robert T. Dodd

Harvard Univ. Press, 1986, 9 1/2" x 6 1/2",
196 pages, hardcover, \$24.95

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An up-to-date report on the evidence that leads scientists to believe that most meteorites come from asteroids, although a few come from the moon and a few more from a planet, probably Mars. Dodd explains how chondrites — the most numerous and primitive of meteorites — contribute to our evolving picture of the early solar system, and how some of them may tell us of events that took place beyond the sun and before its birth. Finally, he examines the controversial hypothesis that impacts by asteroids or comets have interrupted the evolution of life on Earth, accounting for such geological puzzles as the rapid demise of the dinosaurs. This lively and accessible book both illuminates the complex science of meteoritics and conveys a sense of its excitement. University teachers and students will appreciate its synthesis of new research on a broad range of topics, and amateurs will delight in its lucid presentation of a science that is unlocking many mysteries of Earth and space.

— from the publisher

UNDER THE CLOUD

In this chilling documentary history of America's above-ground nuclear tests conducted during the 1950s and early 1960s Miller tells of the test planes sent into the roiling clouds to sample radioactive dust, of the military personnel imperiled by experimentation and of the predrawn blasts that frightened children from their beds and tainted the milk they drank. He also reveals two decades of surreal military trial and error: pigs dressed in Army uniforms to test fiber durability; a hastily built suburban "Doom Town," populated by mannequins, that served as a target for testing the effects of nuclear war on the typical American community; and the "public relations detonations" which exposed civilians and reporters to the same awesome atomic power that melted tanks before their eyes. One startling example Miller points out is that in 1954 RKO was shooting *The Conqueror* only 12 miles from St. George, Utah, a prime downwind site. Within 25 years, the main stars — Susan Hayward, Agnes Moorehead and John Wayne — as well as director Dick Powell — were all dead of cancer. In fact, of a cast and crew of 220, fully 91 had developed carcinomas; this is triple the expected rate for any group.

— from the publisher

The Decades of Nuclear Testing

Richard L. Miller

Free Press/Macmillan, 1986, 9 1/4" x 6 1/4", 547 pages,
hardcover, \$24.00

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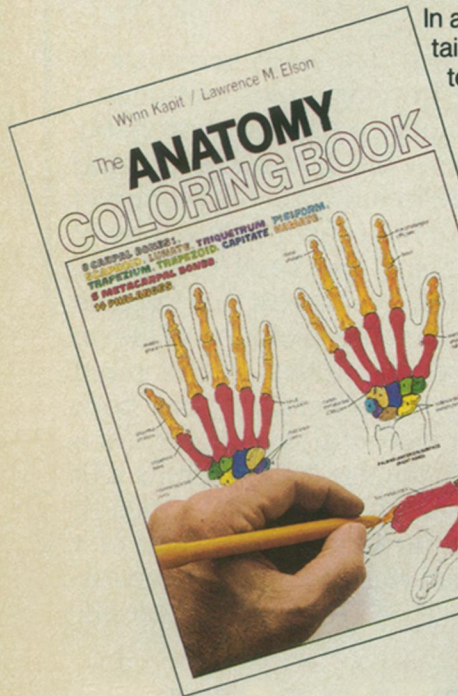
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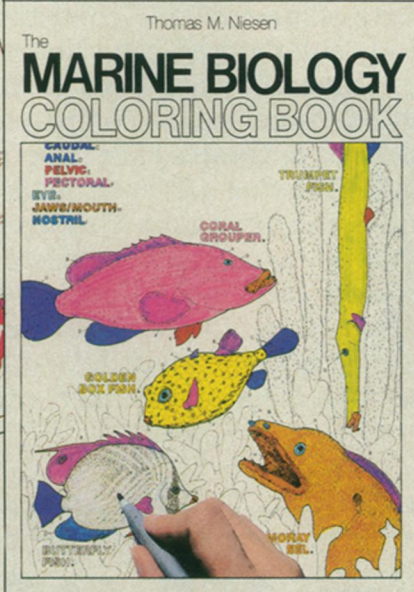
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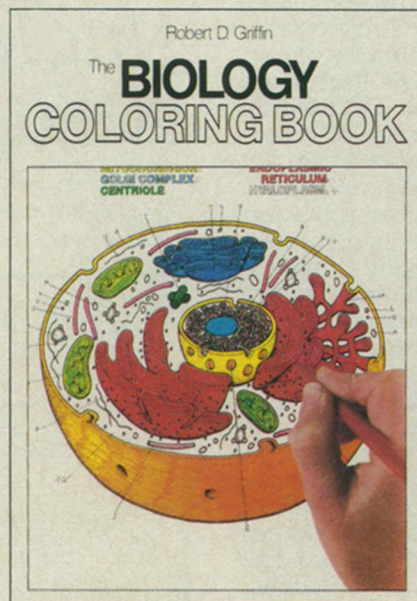
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