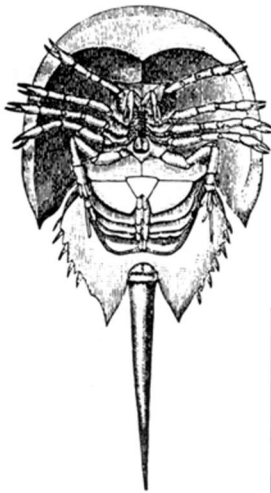


The Year of the Crab: Marine Animals in Modern Medicine

By William Sargent

Millions of years ago, the horseshoe crab and other marine animals made basic adaptations that ensured their survival. Largely unchanged today, their mechanisms now help scientists unravel the secrets of the human body. These simple creatures have become important tools for the biomedical researcher. The horseshoe crab has contributed to numerous discoveries in neurobiology, the functioning of antibodies and the fight against bacterial infections. William Sargent also discusses discoveries made from a number of other marine animals and fish. The nerves in the squid's mantle, for example, and the bioluminescence of the jellyfish are yielding new findings on neurotransmitters. The research here is presented in the context of a single year, with colorful descriptions of many of these creatures' behaviors and rituals during the seasons. — from the publisher



Norton, 1987,
191 pages, 5" x 8 1/4",
hardcover, \$14.95
ISBN 0-393-02403-2

"While the blood of the horseshoe crab produces a sensitive diagnostic test for flu vaccine and spinal meningitis, this ancient animal has also contributed to studies in neurobiology, vision and the functioning of antibodies; the sea urchin adds to our understanding of cystic fibrosis; and the flounder appears to be an indicator species for detecting carcinogens in coastal waters. . . . *The Year of the Crab* is an engrossing blend of natural history and medical research."

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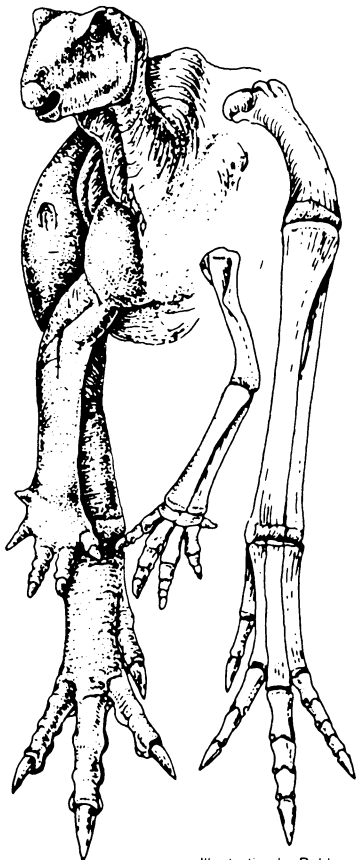


Illustration by Bakker

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— from the publisher

By Robert T.
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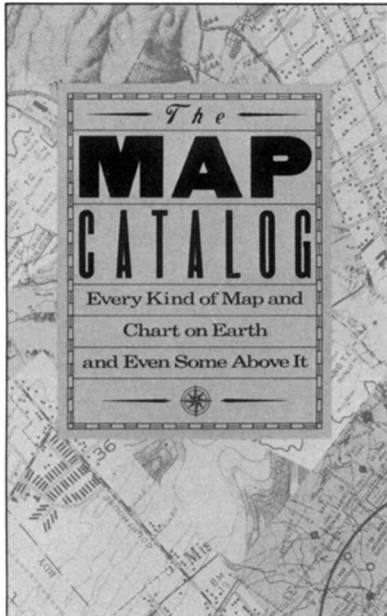
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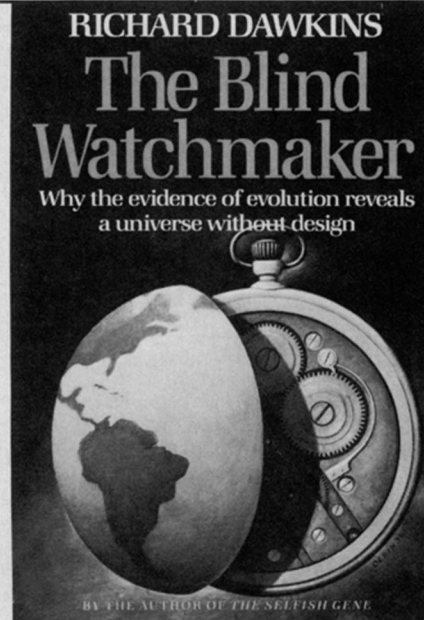
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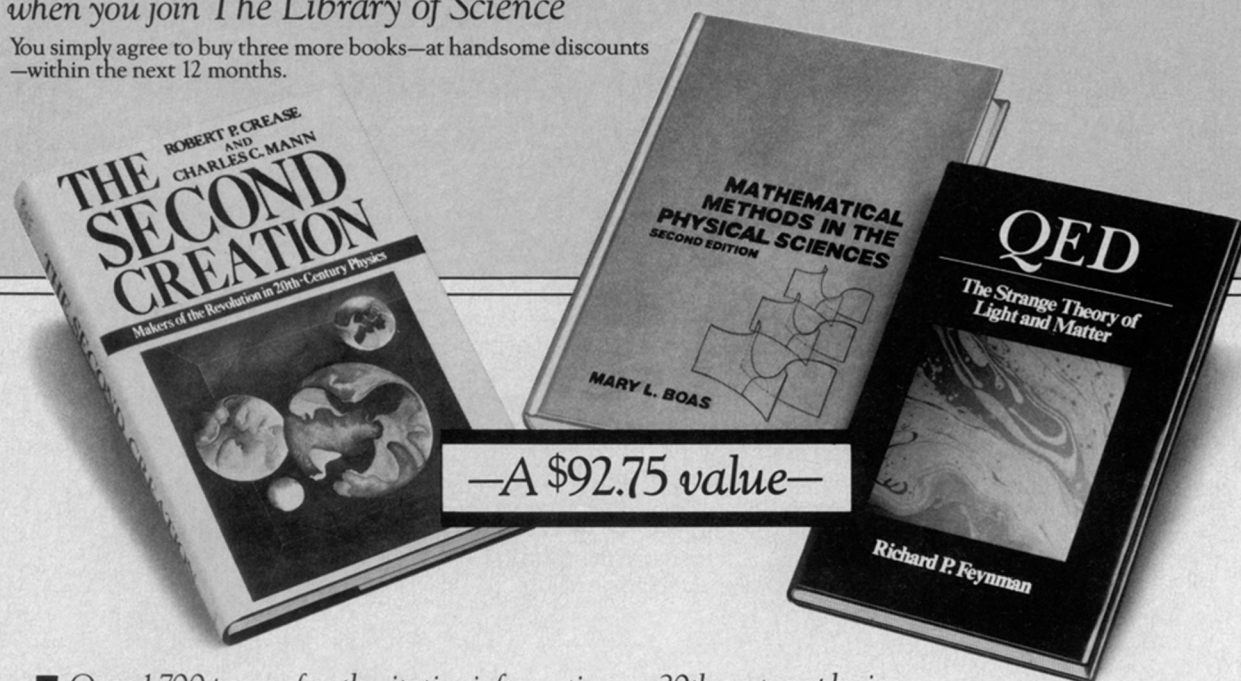


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