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**A Cat Is Watching: A Look at the Way Cats See Us** — Roger A. Caras. A science writer examines how cats communicate with each other and with us, why they pounce when they hunt, how they find their way home over long distances and many more fascinating biological and psychological aspects of the feline world. S&S, 1989, 238 p., illus., hardcover, \$17.95.

**Cold Fusion: The Making of a Scientific Controversy** — F. David Peat. Guides the general reader through the cold fusion debate, starting with the March 1989 announcement of controlled nuclear fusion in a laboratory setting and proceeding through the denouncements of that claim to some ongoing experiments that continue to yield unexplained results. Peat, the author of *Superstrings and the Search for the Theory of Everything*, explains the process of cold fusion and its possible implications for meeting future energy needs. Contemporary, 1989, 188 p., illus., hardcover, \$16.95.

**Disappearing Through the Skylight: Culture and Technology in the Twentieth Century** — O.B. Hardison Jr. Explores how modern inventions, including the computer, electron microscope and lunar lander, have changed our relationship with nature and how these changes have affected various cultures. Hardison documents the disappearance of local and regional cultures and the emergence of a global culture as technology allows, for instance, a McDonald's hamburger in Rome, Italy, to taste the same as one in Rome, N.Y., and a suspension bridge in the Himalayas to be built in the same way as one in San Francisco. Examines the implications of global culture for science, art, language, architecture and humanity as a whole. Viking, 1989, 389 p., color/b&w illus., hardcover, \$22.95.

**Lizards of the World** — Chris Mattison. Discusses for the general reader the origins, forms, distribution, environments, defense mechanisms, reproduction and feeding habits of these reptiles, which have been the subject of speculation and superstitions for centuries. Facts on File, 1989, 192 p., color illus., hardcover, \$23.95.

**Materials Science and Engineering for the 1990s** — National Research Council. Charts the impact of materials science and engineering on the private and public sectors; identifies research needed to maintain U.S. competitiveness; and discusses the role of industry, the federal government and universities in expanding educational opportunities and encouraging research in these fields. Natl Acad Pr, 1989, 294 p., hardcover, \$29.95.

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— Craig Claiborne, *New York Times*

Houghton-Mifflin, 1989, 322 pages, 8¼" x 5½", paperback, \$8.95

FEBRUARY 3, 1990

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