Books

Books is an editorial service for readers' information. To order any book listed or any U.S. book in print, please remit retail price, plus \$2.00 postage and handling charge for each book, to **Science News Books**, 1719 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036. All books sent postpaid. Domestic orders only. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

Aaron's Code: Meta-art, Artificial Intelligence, and the Work of Harold Cohen — Pamela McCorduck. Cohen, a renowned abstract artist, began work in the late 1960s on a computer program called "Aaron" that would generate art without human guidance. This is a nontechnical examination of Aaron's development, its increasingly complex artwork and the disquieting questions raised by "artificial-intelligence art" regarding the nature of artistic creation and human response. Includes examples of Aaron's drawings, many hand-colored by Cohen. W H Freeman, 1990, 225 p., color/b&w illus., hardcover, \$24.95.

Doing Science: The Reality Club 2 — John Brockman, Ed. This is the second in a series of collected essays written by members of the Reality Club, a group of intellectuals who have been meeting informally since 1981. Includes, among other things, an explanation of how to distinguish genuine science from pseudoscience (by theoretical physicist Richard Morris, author of *The Edges of Science*), an exploration of the domain of experimental engineering and nanotechnology (by K. Eric Drexler, president of the Foresight Institute) and a review of scientific efforts to measure love (by psychologist Robert Sternberg). Prentice Hall Pr, 1990, 296 p., paperback, \$11.95.

The Essential Guide to Prescription Drugs 1991 — James W. Long. This valuable reference, written for the nonspecialist, contains detailed entries on more than 200 commonly prescribed drugs, including information about each drug's benefits and risks, dosage, possible adverse effects, habit-forming potential, instructions for use, brand names, generic availability and much more. Also includes a glossary of drug-related terms and tables of drugs associated with photosensitivity, impairment of concentration and memory, depression, double vision and more. HarperCollins, 1990, 1,094 p., hardcover, \$27.50, paperback, \$14.95.

Fusion: The Search for Endless Energy—Robin Herman. The story of the international race to build an atomic fusion reactor and of the scientists and politicians who participated, first in competition and then in cooperation. Explains for lay readers the science of controlled "hot" fusion and includes fascinating political anecdotes. Cambridge U Pr, 1990, 267 p., hardcover, \$19.95.

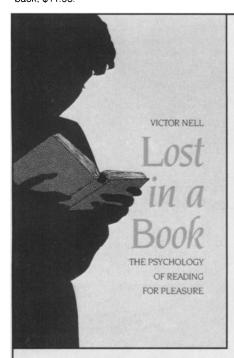
The Indoor Radon Problem — Douglas G. Brookins. An environmental geologist describes for nonspecialists the dangers of radon, a naturallý occurring gas responsible for approximately 20,000 lung-cancer deaths in the United States each year. Brookins explains radon's health risks and its distribution in the United States, how the gas enters homes and other buildings, how to test for it and what can be done about it. Practical advice for the occupants of the estimated 8 million U.S. homes with potentially dangerous radon levels. Columbia U Pr, 1990, 229 p., illus., hardcover, \$29.95.

Photographing the Patterns of Nature — Gary Braasch. This beautifully illustrated guide to nature photography discusses how to recognize natural patterns of color or texture, how to use them in designing an image and how to alter composition, focus or lens choice to capture that image. The captions accompanying more than 150 full-color photographs provide helpful hints on lighting, exposure, filters and more. Watson-Guptill, 1990, 144 p., color illus., hardcover, \$29.95, paperback, \$22.50.

The Power to Heal: Ancient Arts and Modern Medicine — Rick Smolan, Phillip Moffitt and Matthew Naythons, Eds. The editors dedicate this collection of photoessays to those who give of themselves to heal others. Powerful color photographs, capturing healers and patients in the ongoing struggle for the power to heal, trace developments in modern medicine ranging from the use of soldier ants in stitching wounds to brain surgery with gamma rays. Prentice Hall Pr, 1990, 224 p., color illus., hardcover, \$40.00.

World Wildlife Fund Atlas of the Environment

— Geoffrey Lean, Don Hinrichsen and Adam Markham. More than 200 color maps and diagrams illustrate the state of the global environment, addressing such issues as biodiversity, the condition of the oceans, energy resources and water supply, as well as related topics such as population growth rates, infant mortality rates and education levels. Each section is preceded by a concise explanation of the issues presented. Prentice Hall Pr, 1990, 192 p., color illus., paperback, \$19.95.



Why do people read for pleasure? In what ways is pleasure reading similar to hypnosis and to dreaming? Why do sophisticated readers often find enjoyment in reading material they consider "trash"? In this fascinating book, psychologist Victor Nell offers intriguing insights into the process of reading for pleasure. His book will be of interest to cognitive psychologists, reading specialists, cultural sociologists, librarians and literary critics, as well as to those who are merely curious about the mysterious and wonderfilled process that is reading.

—from the publisher

"[Nell's] ability to combine the work of others, empirical research and good prose makes this book itself a pleasure to read."

> – Jack I. Bardon Readings

"A poet who retains the mystery in the joy of reading and the joy in the mystery of reading, Victor Nell in Lost in a Book has given us a comprehensive and scholarly study of the pleasures of reading which will be seen as a major study for many years. I know of no research so thorough, so well written and so filled with the joy of reading. I recommend this book without reservation."

—Bruce C. Appleby English Journal

Yale Univ. Press, 1988, 336 pages, 6" x 91/4", paperback, \$14.95

Science News Books	LostBook
1719 N Street, NW	
Washington, DC 20036	

Please send ______copy(ies) of Lost in a Book. I include a check payable to Science News Books for \$14.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling (total \$16.95) for each copy. Domestic orders only.

Name		
Address		
City		
State	Zip	
Daytime Pho	one ()	

370 SCIENCE NEWS, VOL. 138