## **Books**

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The Brighter Side of Human Nature: Altruism and Empathy in Everyday Life — Alfie Kohn. Among humans, helping is as natural as harming, asserts Kohn, who draws on more than 600 studies from fields such as psychology and sociology to support his contention. This academic analysis challenges theories stating that altruism originally springs from selfishness and that moral behavior must be imposed. Kohn suggests instead that an appropriate model of moral conduct should emphasize both human principles and human empathy, rather than one or the other. Extensively referenced and annotated. Basic, 1990, 400 p., hardcover, \$19.95.

Doorways Through Time: The Romance of Archaeology — Stephen Bertman. The author recreates 26 exciting archaeological discoveries, including both recent and long-ago finds, and introduces the men and women who made these discoveries as well as the ancient individuals whose stories have been deduced from fragile remains. With vivid prose, Bertman resuscitates the Tollund man, whose body was preserved for centuries in a Denmark bog, and a servant who was late for her ceremonial passage into the next world with the king she had served in life. These characters, along with King Arthur, Helen of Troy and others, serve as tour guides in Bertman's archaeological journey. Tarcher, 1991, 265 p., illus., paperback, \$10.95.

The Early Alphabet — John F. Healey. In the ninth volume in the popular "Reading the Past" series, Healey reviews the origins and development of the modern alphabet, from the first attempts at alphabet writing in the semitic languages to the alphabet's spread through the Middle East and its transmission to the West. U of Calif Pr, 1991, 64 p., illus., paperback, \$9.95.

How Monkeys See the World: Inside the Mind of Another Species — Dorothy L. Cheney and Robert M. Seyfarth. A lucid and thought-provoking exploration of primate communication and intelligence. The authors describe their extensive research on free-ranging vervet monkeys and discuss their findings in relation to current theories in cognitive science, artificial intelligence and psychology. This scholarly work, a blend of field experiment and theories of mind, is as philosophical as it is scientific and should challenge anyone interested in scientific methods, mental models or the nature of mind. U of Chicago Pr, 1990, 377 p., illus., hardcover, \$24.95.

Medical Odysseys: The Different and Sometimes Unexpected Pathways to Twentieth-Century Medical Discoveries — Allen B. Weisse. These 13 stories recount the serendipitous events leading to some major medical discoveries, such as how a school for mentally retarded children helped unveil the viral nature of hepatitis and how the search for a syphilis treatment led to the first effective treatment for congestive heart failure. Written in nontechnical terms for general readers with a serious interest in medical history. Rutgers U Pr, 1991, 250 p., hardcover, \$36.00, paperback, \$13.95.

The Next One Hundred Years: Shaping the Fate of Our Living Earth — Jonathan Weiner. An accessible overview of the complex interrelationship among the many threats facing our planet, including acid rain, destruction of the ozone layer, species extinctions and loss of the rain forests. Weiner explains the science behind the threats and their myriad interactions, introduces the scientists who are working to understand them, and suggests what must be done now to redirect the course of the next 100 years. Originally published in hardcover in 1990. Bantam, 1991, 312 p., paperback, \$12.95.

**Pharmacy:** An Illustrated History — by David L. Cowen and William H. Helfand. A comprehensive survey tracing the evolution of the pharmacist's role in health care from ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt to the current clinical pharmacist. Concludes with a discussion of the pharmaceutical industry, its achievements and its responsibility for the discovery and development of new drugs. Profusely illustrated with old engravings and advertisements, photographs and drawings. Abrams, 1990, 272 p., color/b&w illus., hard-cover, \$75.00.

Searching for Certainty: What Scientists Can Know About the Future — John L. Casti. Is it really possible to forecast the weather or to predict the behavior of the stock market? Do nuclear winter and the greenhouse effect truly threaten humanity? Casti, author of *Paradigms Lost*, explores the worlds of probability, chance and chaos, demonstrating how a better understanding of these forces can improve forecasting methods, though we can never eliminate the risks and uncertainties of daily life. Morrow, 1991, 496 p., illus., hardcover, \$22.95.

## TECHNOLOGICAL RISK By H.W. Lewis

"(Technological Risk) is a valuable, clearly written appraisal of the risks (and non-risks) we face as a nation and as individuals, and should be widely read."

- New York Times Book Review

W. W. Norton & Co., 1990, 353 pages, 5¾" x 8½", hardcover, \$22.95

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