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The Astronomers — Donald Goldsmith. An in-depth exploration of the history and status of cosmologic research. Goldsmith's clear explanations, well supplemented with photographs and diagrams, probe the workings and origins of the sun and other stars, the concept of an expanding universe, the mystery of dark matter, the exploration of our solar system, recent findings about the deep space explosions of supernovae and quasars, and much more. Written as a companion book to the PBS series "The Astronomers," which premiered on April 15. St. Martin, 1991, 332 p., color/b&w illus., hardcover, \$24.95.

The Burning Season: The Murder of Chico Mendes and the Fight for the Amazon Rain Forest — Andrew Revkin. An eloquent tribute to the Amazon rain forest and to Chico Mendes, a rubber tapper and grass-roots environmentalist who was murdered in 1988 and whose name has come to symbolize the struggle to save the forest. Revkin traces Mendes' personal and professional development from local union leader to international environmental spokesman and explores the complexities of the clash between the conservation movement and the ranchers whose livelihood depends on leveling the forest. HM, 1990, 317 p., hardcover, \$19.95.

The Diabetic's Book: All Your Questions Answered — June Biermann and Barbara Toohey. The authors respond to more than 130 common questions about diabetes, covering such topics as the causes of diabetes, the latest advances in home treatment, the role of diet and exercise in diabetes control, and the care of diabetic children. A supportive, encouraging resource for anyone with questions about living with diabetes. Tarcher, 1990, 244 p., paperback, \$10.95.

How Science Works — Judith Hann. Describes more than 100 experiments, offering lucid explanations of the underlying scientific concepts. Experiments are grouped into sections on the world of matter; energy, force and motion; light and sound; air and water; electricity and magnetism; and electronics and computers. Illustrated with helpful color photographs, these projects range from simple enough for 4-year-olds to challenging enough for teenagers. Experiments requiring adult supervision are clearly marked. Reader's Digest Assn, 1991, 192 p., color illus., hardcover, \$24.00.

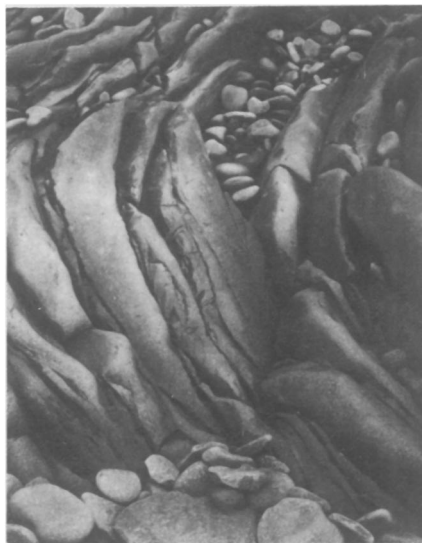
A Literary Companion to Science — Walter Gratzer, Ed. An exploration of the incursion of science into literature. To illustrate literary images of science and scientists, Grazer has compiled more than 200 excerpts from novels, stories and poems influenced by science, including works by Gustave Flaubert, Kurt Vonnegut, Arthur Conan Doyle and John Updike. An entertaining anthology suitable for scientists and nonscientists alike. Originally published in 1989 under the title *The Longman Literary Companion to Science*. Norton, 1990, 517 p., hardcover, \$24.95.

The Next Step: 50 More Things You Can Do to Save the Earth — The EarthWorks Group. The authors of *50 Simple Things You Can Do to Save the Earth* follow up with more complex environmental improvement activities for individuals — from arranging a community recycling program and setting up a car pool to compiling a guide to local environmental resources. Andrews & McMeel, 1991, 120 p., paperback, \$5.95.

Theories of Everything: The Quest for Ultimate Explanation — John D. Barrow. The author of *The World Within the World* examines physicists' quest for a "theory of everything" — an all-embracing picture of the laws of nature. Barrow explains what such a theory would have to tell us about the universe, and examines the vital role mathematics would have to play. He concludes that no such theory is possible, because mathematics' ability to define the natural world, though remarkable, is insufficient to explain the complexity of human experience and thought. Written for readers with a basic understanding of physics. Oxford U Pr, 1991, 223 p., illus., hardcover, \$22.95.

The Truth About Chernobyl — Grigori Medvedev; foreword by Andrei Sakharov. Medvedev, who served as chief engineer during Chernobyl's construction in 1970, presents an in-depth account of the 1986 meltdown. He analyzes the causes of the accident and provides a dramatic, minute-by-minute record of the incident itself, unveiling the human and technical flaws that led to the tragedy, as well as the heroic dedication of firefighters and plant operators who gave their lives to contain the disaster. Basic, 1991, 274 p., hardcover, \$24.95.

The essence of the Earth's beauty lies in disorder, in the disorder of grasses strewn in a meadow, the blotching of green lichen on a tree trunk. Scientists today are discovering uncanny kinds of structure more subtle and intricate than any gardener or sculptor might arrange. They are beginning to recognize the irregular orders that emerge from pure disorder, the formation, metamorphosis and distortion of patterns that repeat themselves on small and large scales. This fascination with patterns barely emerging, dynamically changing, is one that has possessed photographer Eliot Porter all his life. His spectacular color photographs illuminate in mesmerizing ways what scientists are beginning to see for themselves. Through the words of James Gleick and the photographs of Eliot Porter, *Nature's Chaos* teaches us to see patterns, relations and interactions present in nature's disorder and wildness. —from the publisher



Wave-worn rock, Hellnar, Snaefellsnes, Iceland, 14 July 1972

NATURE'S CHAOS

Photographs by
Eliot Porter

Text by
James Gleick

Viking Penguin, 1990, 125 pages,
10 1/4" x 11 1/4", hardcover, \$29.95

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NatChaos

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