

# Books

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**Amazonia** — Loren McIntyre. A magnificent photographic tribute to the Amazon River and the plants, animals and human cultures that occupy its banks. McIntyre, who is internationally renowned for his photographs of the Amazon, has lived in South America for more than five decades, and his spectacular color photographs and compassionate narrative are an eloquent argument for the preservation of the Amazon's natural and cultural heritage. Sierra, 1991, 164 p., color illus., hardcover, \$40.00.

**Blinded by the Light: The Secret Life of the Sun** — John Gribbin. The author of *In Search of Schrödinger's Cat* chronicles the history of solar research from the philosopher Anaxagoras, who was banished from ancient Athens for his heretical suggestion that the sun was a physical body and not a god, to the latest findings about how the sun affects climate fluctuations on Earth and cutting-edge research on what the sun's nuclear furnace can reveal about the missing dark matter in the universe. A lucid, easy-to-read overview. Harmony, 1991, 240 p., illus., hardcover, \$20.00.

**Can't You Guys Read? Cartoons on Academia** — Sidney Harris. Harris, renowned for his cartoons on science and technology, takes on education and cultural literacy in his most recent anthology. His whimsical cartoons have appeared in *THE NEW YORKER*, *DISCOVER* and *IN HEALTH* magazines as well as in a traveling show appearing in museums since 1985. Rutgers U Pr, 1991, 140 p., illus., paperback, \$9.95.

**Fossils: The Key to the Past** — Richard Fortey. The paleontologist's challenge consists of ascertaining how fossil animals lived and how geological processes interacted with the development of life. In this lucid paleontological survey, Fortey traces the history of life from more than 600 million years ago, illustrating the fossil record and how it was produced by the endlessly evolving panorama of past habitats. Fortey's practical suggestions on fossil collecting and fossil locations should interest the amateur collector, while his dynamic treatment of how fossils unlock the secrets of the past should appeal to professionals. Harvard U Pr, 1991, 187 p., color/b&w illus., hardcover, \$29.95.

**The Healing Hand: Man and Wound in the Ancient World** — Guido Majno. An engrossing journey into the past to unravel the history of healing attempts and breakthroughs from prehistory through the Roman doctor Galen in the 2nd century A.D., whose work dominated medicine for the next 15 centuries. Majno's sweeping survey encompasses history, art, biology, myth and magic, and his generously illustrated text is witty, informative and anecdotal, covering everything from messages in primitive art to the invention of the syringe. A provocative read for general readers as well as medical history buffs. Originally published in hardcover in 1975. Harvard U Pr, 1991, 571 p., illus./color plates, paperback, \$19.95.

**The Malaria Capers: More Tales of Parasites and People, Research and Reality** — Robert S. Desowitz. Why is it that despite the promises of medical research and biotechnology, tropical peoples are as burdened with tropical diseases as they were 20 years ago? Why have attempts at disease eradication and vaccination failed? Inspired by these questions, Desowitz chronicles the history of two insect-borne infections — malaria and kala azar (visceral leishmaniasis) — and of the human efforts to control them. He argues that the need for practical solutions to problems predominantly affecting the world's poor people is increasingly neglected in the intellectual pursuits of biotechnology and by the drugs-for-profit pharmaceutical industry. Norton, 1991, 288 p., hardcover, \$21.95.

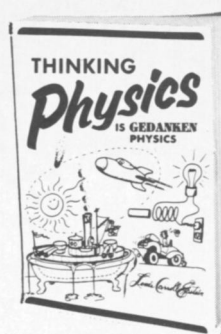
**A Parrot Without a Name: The Search for the Last Unknown Birds on Earth** — Don Stapp. Stapp accompanied two respected ornithologists to the Peruvian Amazon, which contains the richest assortment of avifauna on Earth. Here he conveys the rigors of field research — from difficult canoe-camping trips to the necessity of killing birds for taxonomic research. A bird lover's delight and an adventure story for the general reader. Originally published in hardcover in 1990. U of Tex Pr, 1991, 239 p., paperback, \$14.95.

**The Three-Pound Universe** — Judith Hooper and Dick Teresi. Reveals the current progress made in the exploration of the mysteries of the human brain and tells of the scientists behind the work. In a section titled "Altered States," the authors examine such topics as hallucinations, dreams, the near-death experience and perception. The final section is a discussion of the brain/mind connection. Originally published in hardcover in 1986. J P Tarcher, 1991, 410 p., illus., paperback, \$14.95.

**Uncertainty: The Life and Science of Werner Heisenberg** — David C. Cassidy. A fascinating profile of Heisenberg's extraordinary scientific genius and of his controversial responses to the political upheaval of World War II. Winner of the Nobel prize at the age of 32 and pivotal in the development of quantum and nuclear physics, Heisenberg entered the atomic age conducting nuclear research under the Nazi regime. Cassidy examines the personal, professional and political motivations and compromises of this dramatic figure as well as his role in some of the most far-reaching scientific endeavors of the 20th century. W H Freeman, 1991, 669 p., hardcover, \$29.95.

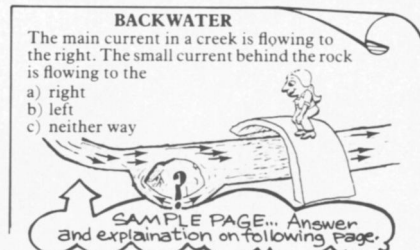
**Virtual Reality** — Howard Rheingold. A thorough overview of the history and status of virtual reality, a new, computer-generated technology that allows you to create, interact with and alter a simulated environment. Rheingold explores virtual reality's potential applications in fields such as architecture and medicine, the technical obstacles faced by pioneers in virtual reality research, and the myriad social implications of the ability to generate artificial realities. Summit Bks, 1991, 415 p., hardcover, \$22.95.

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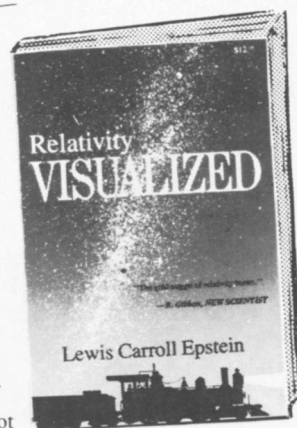
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