

# Books

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**Cousteau's Great White Shark** — Jean-Michel Cousteau and Mose Richards. Understudies to the great Jacques-Ives Cousteau for almost two decades, these men, accompanied by more than 40 scientists, technicians, and divers, traveled to the south coast of Australia. There, in an area known as the Dangerous Reef, they sought out for six months the ocean's most terrifying and mystifying denizen. The scientists tracked, tagged, and followed rare great white sharks, analyzing their behavior and their movement in the only place great whites can successfully be studied: their own habitat. This compelling and easy-to-read account of the authors' time with the sharks features 125 extraordinary full-color photographs. Abrams, 1992, 176 p., hardcover, \$39.95.

**Kid Fitness: A Complete Shape-Up Program from Birth Through High School** — Kenneth H. Cooper, M.D. This fitness specialist has designed a program to get children interested in increasing their energy levels and lowering their risk of disease during adulthood. A valuable guide for parents concerned about their children's well-being. Foreword by Arnold Schwarzenegger. Originally published in hardcover in 1991. Bantam, 1992, 416 p., illus., paperback, \$14.50.

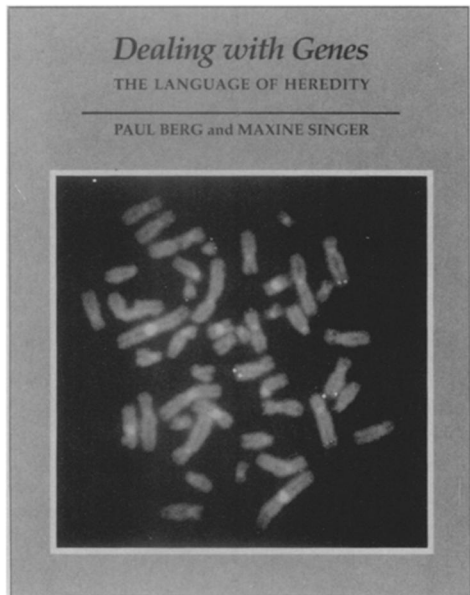
**The God Particle: If the Universe Is the Answer, What Is the Question?** — Leon Lederman with Dick Teresi. Nobel laureate Lederman searches for the answer that the ancient Greek philosopher Democritus, who proposed the concept of the "a-tom," also quested for in 430 B.C.: What is the world made of? Lederman describes his use of the particle accelerator and how a larger machine may help him find the ultimate "a-tom," the God Particle, which may reduce the laws of physics to an elementary equation so simple it can fit on a T-shirt. A witty style and vivid storytelling make this book an enjoyable read for everyone intrigued by the wonders of the universe and a scientist's pursuit of the truth. HM, 1993, 434 p., hardcover, \$24.95.

**The Healing Blade: A Tale of Neurosurgery** — Edward J. Sylvester. Sylvester immersed himself in the lives of the surgeons, technicians, and patients at one of the premier brain-surgery centers in the country: Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix. The result is a riveting account of the treatment of eight patients whose cases outline incredible accomplishments in the field of neurosurgery. An especially compelling chapter deals with the practice called "standstill," during which the patient's heart is stopped, the brain is chilled, and the blood is drained from the body in order to reduce the brain's need for oxygen. This allows the surgeon to work in a blood-free environment. The book reads like a thriller and provides an interesting look at the people who make these "miracles" happen. S&S, 1993, 240 p., hardcover, \$22.00.

**Impure Science: Fraud, Compromise, and Political Influence in Scientific Research** — Robert Bell. This controversial analysis of how scientific research is funded argues that the demand for results and a quick return on that financing often leads to cutting corners, or worse. In 1989 the National Science Foundation funded only 31 percent of all research proposals brought before it for review — down from 38 percent 10 years ago — making the competition cutthroat among what the author sees as increasingly greedy scientists. Bell, an economist, evaluates features in the approval system that are supposed to prevent fraud and shows how they sometimes fail. Lack of funding for replication of experiments and peer reviewers unwilling to act as whistle-blowers for fear they will be marked as troublemakers top Bell's list of downfalls in this system. Wiley, 1992, 301 p., hardcover, \$22.95.

**What You Need to Know About Psychiatric Drugs** — Stuart Yudofsky, Robert E. Hales, and Tom Ferguson. This consumer guide to drugs prescribed for psychiatric disorders includes antidepressants, antipsychotics, antiaddiction drugs, and drugs prescribed for phobias, hyperactivity, and Alzheimer's disease. The authors discuss how psychiatric disorders arise, what drugs are prescribed for them, and what nondrug treatment alternatives are available. They conclude with an alphabetized listing of more than 100 psychiatric drugs, describing their benefits and risks, usage guidelines, and more. Originally published in hardcover in 1991. Ballantine, 1992, 646 p., paperback, \$14.00.

Those of us who read a daily newspaper or scan a weekly magazine have grown accustomed to being told that the science of genetics influences countless aspects of our existence, from human development, health, and disease to the ecological balance of our planet. We accept this, and yet most of us have only the faintest idea of what a gene really is or how it functions. This book is a primer on modern genetics, and its aim is to teach any interested general reader all he or she needs to know about how genes work — and about how a detailed knowledge of their workings can be applied to some of the most pressing problems of our time.



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