

# Books

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**Cancer: What Cutting-Edge Science Can Tell You and Your Doctor About the Causes of Cancer and the Impact on Diagnosis and Treatment** — Robert M. McAllister, Sylvia Teich Horowitz, and Raymond V. Gilden. Three specialists bring their diverse expertise in cancer research and treatment to a complete compendium of information written for the lay reader who wants a thorough understanding of this disease. The book contains three sections dedicated to the history of cancer research and our current understanding of cell biology and genetics; the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, including the latest experimental trials; and a detailed discussion of the 10 most common cancers, including their symptoms, causes, diagnoses, stages, variations, and specific treatments. Basic, 1993, 329 p., hardcover, \$22.00.

**Entropy and the Magic Flute** — Harold J. Morowitz. A delightful cornucopia of short essays on diverse topics, some purely scientific and others more personal. Focal points include encounters with hippos, the sociology of coffee shops in Palo Alto, Calif., and a visit to the grave site of physicist Ludwig Boltzmann, who lies near Beethoven and Brahms. Oxford U Pr, 1993, 224 p., hardcover, \$22.00.

**Inventions and Discoveries 1993: What's Happened, What's Coming, What's That?** — Valérie-Anne Giscard d'Estaing and Mark Young, eds. A chronological look at the most important inventions, grouped together here by topics such as Industry, Energy, and the Environment; Science; Everyday Life; Transportation; the Arts; Games; Toys, Sports; and a variety of other fields as well. The most prominent inventions in each field are featured along with details about the inventor, comments on the invention's significance, and how it works. Also includes longer features about prominent inventors and information about inventions recently patented such as the robotic vacuum cleaner and white marigolds. Facts on File, 1993, 248 p., color photos, hardcover, \$24.95.

**Living Within Limits: Ecology, Economics, and Population Taboos** — Garrett Hardin. In what will definitely be considered a controversial viewpoint, a human ecologist contends that we can no longer ignore the consequences of our booming human population. The world's population increased by 47 percent from 1970 to 1990, yet when Earth Day took place in 1990 the issue of population was almost completely ignored, even though, the author asserts, the biggest problem facing the environment is our inability to regulate demands on a very limited supply. Hardin contends we need to keep our sentiments in check and disallow immigration from poor countries to rich ones and that we need to resocialize ourselves toward a society that does not live on credit but within its means. Within the pages of this book he makes propositions for what will and will not work in the quest to control population in addition to emphasizing the immediacy of this effort. Oxford U Pr, 1993, 339 p., hardcover, \$25.00.

**The Sexual Brain** — Simon LeVay. The author, a neurobiologist who maintains that sexuality originates in the brain rather than in the mind, elaborates on recent research and his deductions about our sexuality as a biological rather than psychological phenomenon. LeVay lays a solid foundation for the biological factors underlying maleness and femaleness, then turns his attention to arguments regarding nurture versus nature. He does allow for a certain amount of environmental influence in gender identity, but he concludes that hormones, genetics, and prenatal influences are clearly what establishes sexual identity. MIT Pr, 1993, 168 p., hardcover, \$22.50.

**They All Laughed . . . From Light Bulbs to Lasers: The Fascinating Stories Behind the Great Inventions That Have Changed Our Lives** — Ira Flatow. The host of National Public Radio's science talk show details the history of creations such as Teflon, saccharin, Velcro, and the microwave oven, revealing that many resulted from accidents. He describes major accomplishments of inventors such as physicist Willy Higinbotham, who invented the first video game in 1958, and Giovanni Caselli, an Italian priest who invented the first commercial fax machine in 1843. Originally published in hardcover in 1992. HarperCollins, 1993, 238 p., b&w illus. and photos, paperback, \$10.00.

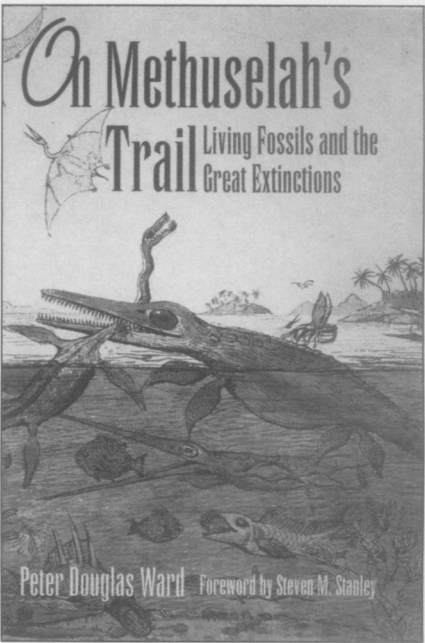
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—ALA Booklist



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