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Digital Woes: Why We Should Not Depend on Software — Lauren Ruth Wiener. Software subtly pervades nearly every aspect of human existence today, from flying airplanes and operating weapons to controlling medical equipment and bank accounts. Yet, the author states, safety features used on mechanisms predating software are often omitted. Wiener cites many examples of computer technology gone awry and imparts invaluable information about programming and the future of software. She implores the public to use this information and expand upon it to question the safety, reliability, and expense of new software advances. Addison-Wesley, 1993, 245 p., hardcover, \$22.95.

The Encyclopedia of Land Invertebrate Behaviour — Rod and Ken Preston-Mafham. The authors take a detailed look at the behavioral patterns of a number of insects and other land-dwelling invertebrate species — specifically, sexual behavior, egg-laying behavior, parental care, feeding, and defensive behavior. More than 200 photographs clarify the provocative text, which explains, among other things, how slugs copulate in midair and how a longhorn beetle can mimic bird feces when it feels threatened. MIT Pr, 1993, 320 p., color photos and b&w illus., hardcover \$45.00.

Maya Cosmos: Three Thousand Years on the Shaman's Path — David Freidel, Linda Schele, and Joy Parker. An archaeologist, an epigrapher, and a professor — all experts in Maya studies — follow up Freidel and Schele's book *A Forest of Kings* by deciphering the Maya creation myth and contending that it is founded in astronomy and is not merely a story. By recounting their personal experiences with the Maya of today and the knowledge they attained through numerous digs that traced the origins of the creation myth from the Olmecs 3,000 years ago forward, the authors show how the Maya remain true to the knowledge and ways of their ancestors. The authors also provide insights into the way the Maya see the world. Morrow, 1993, 543 p., b&w photos and illus. and color plates, hardcover, \$30.00.

Sleep Right in Five Nights: A Clear and Effective Guide for Conquering Insomnia — James Perl. This comprehensive look at sleep disorders and insomnia begins with a discussion of such sleep problems as snoring, sleepwalking, and narcolepsy and examines the causes of insomnia. The author aims to provide a better understanding of sleep patterns and to help pinpoint individual problems. The second half of the book is designed to help the individual solve these problems by making use of information gleaned from research done by the American Sleep Disorders Association. Relaxation techniques, nutrition, exercise, the effects of sunlight on sleep, aging, depression, medications, and many other sleep factors are addressed. Morrow, 1993, 320 p., hardcover, \$20.00.

The Surgery Book: An Illustrated Guide to 73 of the Most Common Operations — Robert M. Youngson with The Diagram Group. For those curious about what actually transpires on the operating table, the author, a practicing surgeon, provides numerous diagrams of procedures and techniques for some of the most common operations, including hip replacement, mastectomy, vasectomy, heart bypass, cesarean section, and cataract repair. Details about how long the surgery lasts, why it is necessary, and postoperative care are also included, as is information about how diagnostic tests such as MRI and ultrasound are performed. St Martin's, 1993, 448 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$27.95.

Without Conscience: The Disturbing World of the Psychopaths Among Us — Robert D. Hare. By definition, psychopaths are people who lack conscience and thrive on self-gratification, usually at the expense of another. The author estimates that more than 2 million psychopaths inhabit North America, but not all of them become serial killers or rapists. In fact, they are more likely to be cunning swindlers or heartbreakers. Hare, a leader in the field of psychopathy, presents here a basic overview of psychopathic traits, ideas about what makes these people so ruthless, and the difficulty in treating them. PB, 1993, 236 p., hardcover, \$21.00.

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