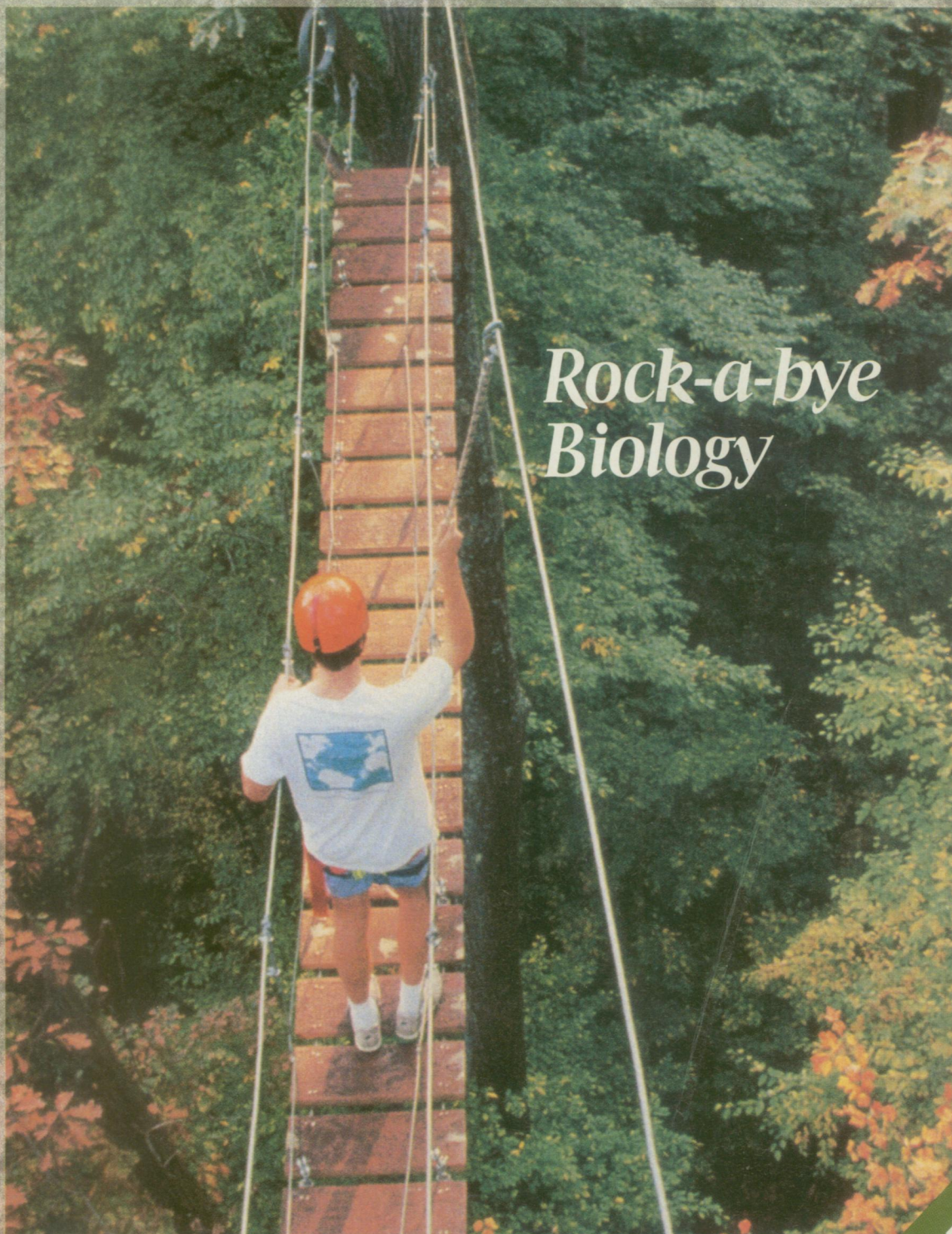


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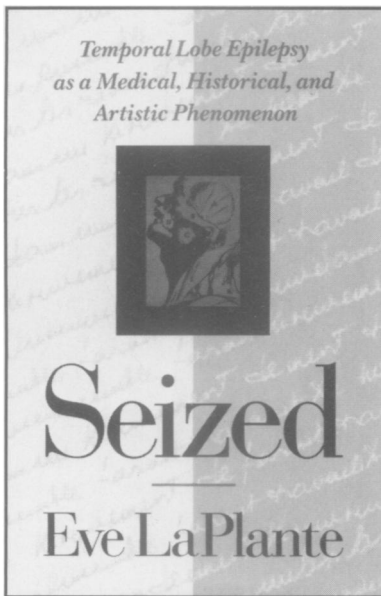
SCIENCE NEWS

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Pages 401-432



*Rock-a-bye
Biology*

YEAR-END
REVIEW



Its symptoms are varied, involving an extraordinary range of behaviors: hallucinations, flashbacks, intense anger and fear, heightened religious feelings, changes in sexual interest, a compulsion to write or draw. Temporal lobe epilepsy (TLE), a condition that affects more than a million Americans, is one of the most common neurological disorders.

In *Seized*, journalist Eve LaPlante has written a compelling chronicle of the lives of three ordinary people with this extraordinary disease: a corporate executive, a small-town attorney, and a former prison inmate and mental patient. Although TLE is the most common form of epilepsy among adults, it remains a challenge to diagnose and treat because of its manifold guises and degrees of severity. The stories of these patients show the amazing array of TLE's effects, both positive and negative, and illustrate how people manage to cope with the disorder by adapting in desperate or constructive ways.

Interwoven with these narratives are accounts of the pioneering efforts by doctors to find a cure. As the book reveals, what continues to make TLE a promising subject for research is its suggestive link to creativity. Moses, Saint Paul, Dostoevsky, Flaubert, van Gogh, and Lewis Carroll are only a few of the prominent figures portrayed in *Seized* who are thought to have had the disease, which may account for distinctive features in their lives and work. Dostoevsky, for example, described in fiction the ecstasy that can precede a TLE seizure.

An invaluable resource for anyone whose life has been touched by epilepsy, *Seized* is an equally dramatic narrative for anyone curious about the uncanny landscape of the brain.

— from HarperCollins

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SeizedH

Please send _____ copy(ies) of *Seized*. I include a check payable to Science News Books for \$20.00 plus \$2.00 postage and handling (total \$22.00) for each copy. Domestic orders only.

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HarperCollins, 1993, 254 pages,
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Evolution through natural selection is one of the great transforming ideas of the modern world. Through lively text and dazzling illustrations, this book traces the history and meaning of this idea, exploring current evolutionary theory, reexamining Darwin's views about natural selection, and showing evolution in action.

State-of-the-art graphics clearly depict the relationships between living things of past and present and explain the biological processes of change that make evolution possible. Tracing the four billion years since the simplest life forms appeared on Earth, *From So Simple a Beginning* explores each of the crucial turning points of natural selection.

From the grand sweep of life's history the book turns to the microscopic world of cells, genes, and DNA, examining the unique components that make it possible for living things to change from generation to generation.

It surveys today's evolutionary success stories and explains the adaptations that make them fit perfectly with their circumstances and environment.

Finally, the book considers various evolutionary theories scientists hold today. Filled with profound insights into the mysteries of life on our planet, *From So Simple a Beginning* is a definitive exploration of the grandest subject in the natural sciences.

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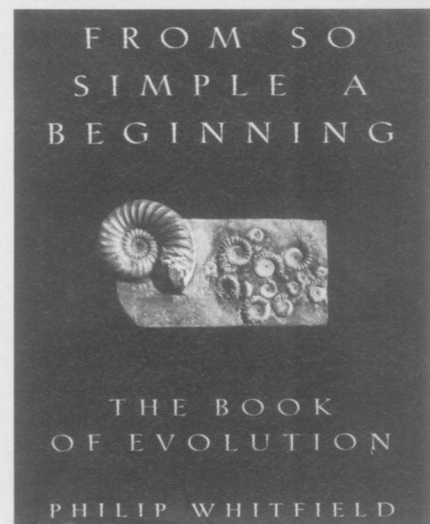
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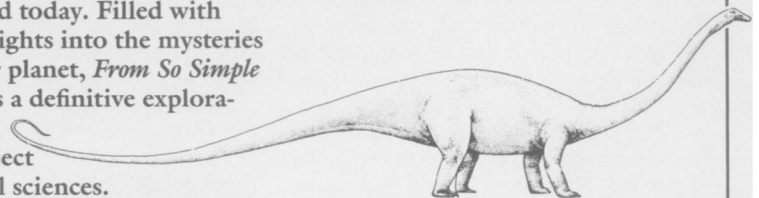
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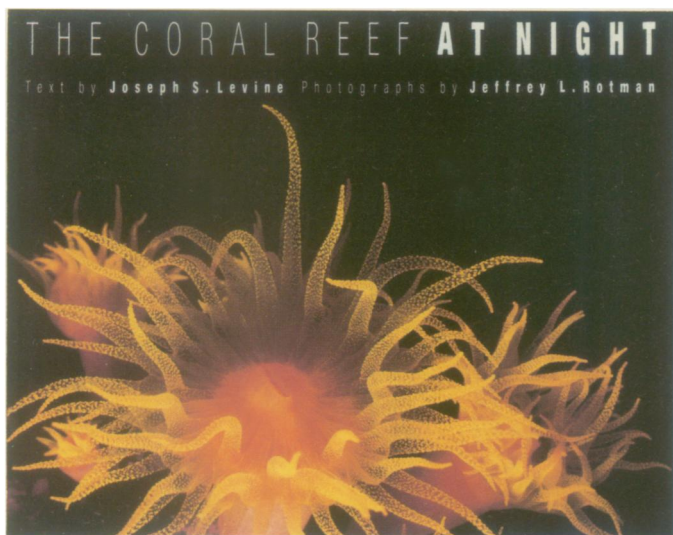
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To most people, mention of a coral reef conjures images of sunlit, turquoise water. But the reef at night is a totally different world: Against a background of deepest black, the reef and its inhabitants come vividly to life. Coral animals emerge, transforming their rocky limestone homes into brilliant, multicolored gardens, and fishes and other creatures join them, displaying markedly different forms and behaviors from those seen in daylight.

Through words and images, *The Coral Reef at Night* takes us on a remarkable journey through the hours between dusk and dawn, explaining how darkness transforms this environment into a mysterious, unusually beautiful realm where bioluminescence is the only natural form of light. With 111 full-color plates by world-renowned undersea photographer Jeff Rotman, the book details the rich display of curious behaviors and extraordinary creatures that illuminate this shadowy world.

The clear and lively text by Joe Levine introduces basic biological concepts and scientific facts in an easy-to-read, anecdotal fashion. *The Coral Reef at Night* also includes a bounty of useful information for the adventurer — there is a whole chapter devoted to the challenges,



thrills, and dangers of night diving — and photographer Jeff Rotman contributes a short essay on underwater photography, with special attention given to photographing at night.

— from Harry N. Abrams Pub.

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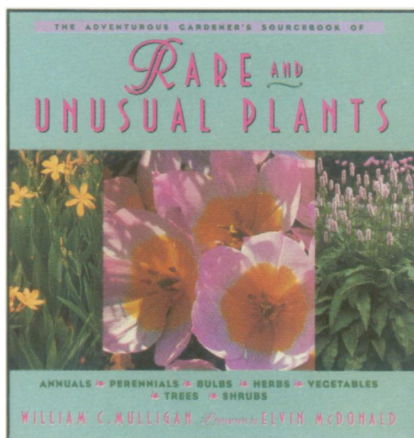
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RB1974

Rare and Unusual Plants

For the gardener who wants to grow more than the usual azaleas and marigolds, *The Adventurous Gardener's Sourcebook of Rare and Unusual Plants* is a glorious catalog of the world's most uncommon and unsung annuals, perennials, bulbs, herbs, vegetables, trees, and shrubs. Hundreds of species noted for their singular beauty, relative rarity, undeserved obscurity, or particularly intriguing history are described in detail, including advice on planting, climate, and integrating

**Simon & Schuster, 1992, 224 pages,
9 1/4" x 9 3/4", hardcover, \$40.00**



exotic with more traditional plants. Also includes a complete section on sources, including seed catalogs and exchanges, mail-order nurseries, and plant societies, to help even the most casual gardener become a modern-day plant hunter.

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