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Crackpot or Genius?: A Complete Guide to the Uncommon Art of Inventing — Francis D. Reynolds. A step-by-step analysis first of the making of an inventor, then of the inventing process, this book offers encouragement and ideas for productivity. The author includes suggestions for developing the creativity of youngsters and adults, analyzes the roadblocks and hazards of the profession, and offers sound advice for obtaining and protecting a patent and marketing an invention. Chicago Review, 1993, 197 p., b&w photos and illus., paperback, \$14.95.

Gardening by Mail: A Source Book — Barbara J. Barton. Virtually everything one would want to buy, plant, read, visit, or join concerning horticulture is listed within these pages. Entries include complete mailing and telephone information, a contact, services, and fees for plant and seed sources, suppliers, horticulture societies, magazines, libraries, and books. Several indexes cross-referencing the listings geographically, by plant and product name, in addition to alphabetically make this a very user-friendly publication. HM, 1994, 386 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$18.95.

How We Die: Reflections on Life's Final Chapter — Sherwin Nuland. In vivid detail, Nuland explains what physically happens to a body as it succumbs to old age and six of the most common diseases, including Alzheimer's and cancer. His intent is to demystify the dying process in order to help people be better prepared and able to make the best decisions regarding their own death or that of a loved one. Personal accounts of the deaths of people close to the author intertwined with clinical details of death — even violent death — soften the material and produce compelling reading. Knopf, 1993, 278 p., hardcover, \$24.00.

Human Minds: An Exploration — Margaret Donaldson. A developmental psychologist asserts that the human mind experiences four stages she refers to as "locuses of concern." The first is the "point mode" and relates to infants, whose concern is the here and now. The "line mode" takes over shortly thereafter, when the child focuses on the past and future. Stage three — the "construct mode" — begins in the second year of life, when a child becomes interested in the unexperienced. Not until age 9 does the "transcendent mode," when the child begins logical thought, prevail. Donaldson goes on to incorporate the relationship of thoughts and emotions into a comparative analysis of various cultures and systems of education, both current and historical, from Western and Eastern societies. Originally published in hardcover in 1992. Penguin Bks, 1993, 314 p., paperback, \$13.00.

A Short Guide to Writing About Biology — Jan A. Pechenik. Intended as a writing and research primer for undergraduate and postgraduate college students, this guide outlines writing techniques and key principles in science writing and applies them to all aspects of the research process, proofreading and editing skills, laboratory reports, term papers, resumé writing, and oral presentations. Stressing the importance of comprehension skills, techniques for effective note taking and information gathering are offered. HarperCollins, 1993, 240 p., paperback, \$15.00.

Seeds of Change: The Living Treasure — Kenny Ausubel. After visiting a pueblo that uses natural farming techniques, Ausubel's eyes opened to the importance of biodiversity and the ill effects of current agricultural practices. He went on to found an organic seed company, calling it Seeds of Change. Ausubel points out that rice, corn, and wheat make up half the human diet, which could create problems if a blight should strike them. Then, he outlines a variety of forgotten foods that are ecologically friendly and the techniques for growing them. Harper SF, 1994, 232 p., b&w illus. and color photos and illus., paperback, \$18.00.

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