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Animal Babies: A Habitat-by-Habitat Guide to How Wild Animals Grow — Steve Parker. Details about the breeding habits of the adults and the birth, survival techniques, and maturation of the young of more than 50 mammals, reptiles, and birds are featured in this guide, in addition to beautiful color photograph of the subjects. Fact boxes list specific information such as size at birth, number of babies, and incubation period. Rodale Pr, 1994, 176 p., color photos, hardcover, \$30.00.

Correcting the Code: Inventing the Cure for the Human Body — Larry Thompson. Just four years ago, W. French Anderson became the first physician to successfully treat a patient using gene therapy. The ensuing maelstrom has at times been overwhelming and has broken the careers of many scientists, says the author. This chronicle of the scientists since labeled as geniuses or quacks details the paths they followed to make gene therapy a viable treatment for ADA deficiency and perhaps one day for AIDS. Along the way, the intricacies of this technology are thoroughly described, as are the politics and ethical issues at hand. S&S, 1994, 378 p., hardcover, \$23.00.

Fossils: The Key to the Past — Richard Fortey. The paleontologist's challenge consists of finding out how fossil animals lived and how geological processes interacted with the development of life. In this lucid survey, Fortey traces the history of life from more than 600 million years ago, illustrating the fossil record and how it was produced by the endlessly evolving panorama of past habitats. Fortey's suggestions on fossil collecting and fossil locations should interest the amateur, while his dynamic treatment of how fossils unlock the secrets of the past should appeal to professionals. Originally published in hardcover in 1991. Harvard U Pr, 1994, 187 p., color/b&w photos and illus., paperback, \$18.95.

Good News for Bad Backs — Robert L. Swezey and Annette M. Swezey. The founders of the Arthritis and Back Pain Center at the Swezey Institute in Santa Monica, Calif., strive to help people alleviate pain and live productive lives without surgery or heavy medication. This handbook shows how to do that by providing a thorough introduction to how the back works and fails and by offering guidelines to help determine the severity of a particular back problem and the best ways to find a physician to treat it. Many tips about the best ways to lie, sit, squat, lift, and exercise while minimizing stress on the back make up the concluding chapters. Cequal, 1993, 232 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$12.95.

Insanely Great: The Life and Times of Macintosh, the Computer That Changed Everything — Steven Levy. The author shows how, 10 years after its ambitious debut, Apple computers managed to accomplish the revolution in home computing its precocious founders promised. Levy, author of *Hackers* and self-professed Macintosh devotee, traces the unusual origins and quirky personalities behind the Macintosh and the unique subculture that has sprung up around these computers. He also reviews how the idea of the age of information evolved. Viking, 1994, 292 p., hardcover, \$20.95.

Keeping and Breeding Amphibians — Chris Mattison. Amateur and advanced herpetoculturists alike will find a use for this guide to raising newts, salamander, frogs, toads, and caecilians. Many pages are devoted to general topics such as the fundamental biology of amphibians and the equipment, food, maintenance, medical care, and indoor habitat needed to care for them properly. Ending chapters address the needs of specific breeds. Blanford Pr, 1993, 224 p., b&w illus. and color photos, hardcover, \$24.95.

Virtual Worlds — Benjamin Woolley. As we move closer to an artificial world, reality gets lost as it becomes manipulated and simulated, Woolley contends. He poses the metaphysical issues that he believes must be considered before moving into this new technology and insists that a true reality must be clarified beforehand; otherwise, all that is left is relativism, which leads to the belief that oneself is all that exists. Woolley further investigates how the commercial world is using virtual reality. Originally published in hardcover in 1992. Penguin Bks, 1993, 274 p., paperback, \$12.00.

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Alfred A. Knopf Inc., 1994, 278 pages,
6½" x 9½", hardcover, \$24.00

How We Die

Reflections on Life's Final Chapter

SHERWIN B. NULAND

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