

Books

Books is an editorial service for readers' information. To order any book listed or any U.S. book in print, please remit retail price, plus \$2.00 postage and handling charge for each book, to **Science News Books**, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. To place Visa or MasterCard orders, call 1-800-544-4565. All books sent postpaid. Domestic orders only. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

Atlas of Neptune — Garry E. Hunt and Patrick Moore. The authors offer historical data as well as information gleaned from the Voyager II mission in 1989 in this compendium of knowledge about the eighth planet from the sun. Vivid color photographs enhance text detailing Neptune's rings, satellites, and atmosphere. Cambridge U Pr, 1994, 84 p., b&w and illus. and color photos, hardcover, \$27.95.

The End of Evolution: On Mass Extinctions and the Preservation of Biodiversity — Peter Ward. The author of *On Methuselah's Trail* contends that a third mass extinction of life on Earth is well under way at the hands of humans. Pointing to the two most significant and recent extinctions — that of 245 million years ago and that of 65 million years ago — he argues that neither extinction was completely sudden and that each had numerous causes and a complex history. Two indicators that these extinctions share are temperature changes and drops in sea level. Both appear on Earth today and lead Ward to cite other, more specific indicators supporting his thesis, such as the virtual eradication of the tropical forests in Asia by the year 2000. Additionally he reports on his travels around the world looking for clues to past extinctions. Bantam, 1994, 301 p., b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$22.95.

The FDA Follies: An Alarming Look at Our Food and Drugs in the 1980s — Herbert Burkholz. Pointing to some well-known downfalls of the Food and Drug Administration throughout the past 10 years — notably the approval and subsequent recall of the Dalkon Shield intra-uterine device and the Bjork-Shiley artificial heart valve — as well as lesser-known instances of bribes and deadly ineptitude, Burkholz examines how deregulation corrupted FDA. Concluding chapters offer hope for the turnaround of the agency with the appointment of David Kessler. Basic, 1994, 228 p., hardcover, \$23.00.

Hollows, Peepers, and Highlanders: An Appalachian Mountain Ecology — George Constantz. Focusing exclusively on wildlife and plants indigenous to Appalachia, this series of vignettes is grouped into three sections. The first traces the geological origins of the Appalachian Mountains; the second focuses on the adaptations of various species to the area; and the third follows numerous species through seasonal changes. Mountain Pr, 1994, 267 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$14.00.

The Origin of Language: Tracing the Evolution of the Mother Tongue — Merritt Ruhlen. A prophet of linguistic monogenesis — the controversial theory that all languages evolved from a single early vernacular (in this case in Africa) — invites the reader to learn and apply the common process used by linguists to classify the 5,000 languages in existence today into language families. Ruhlen shows how this process helped him establish his monogenesis philosophy, in addition to his further contentions that linguistic development is biological rather than cultural. Wiley, 1994, 240 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$27.95.

The Red Queen: Sex and the Evolution of Human Nature — Matt Ridley. Ridley argues that human sexuality operates on the same concept as the Red Queen in Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*, who runs just to stay in place. He contends that we have sex in order to maintain future generations' genetic superiority over disease organisms. Drawing on numerous aspects of nature, including genetics, biology, and culture, he provides a variety of reasons for the varying sexual facets of humans and other creatures, always focusing on this theory that animals fundamentally choose mates who will produce strong and desirable offspring. Macmillan, 1994, 405 p., hardcover, \$25.00.

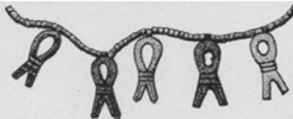
Unveiling the Edge of Time: Black Holes, White Holes, Wormholes — John Gribbin. A prolific science writer tells the story of the theories and discoveries that lead scientists to conclude that such cosmic objects as black holes, white holes, and wormholes not only are real, but might actually provide a passage to other universes and travel through time. He describes what astronauts might see and feel while traveling through each of these space-time holes and where they would arrive after passing through a "singularity," the center of a black hole where all known laws of physics break down. Originally published in hardcover in 1992. Crown Pub Group, 1994, 248 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$12.00.

*To order by Visa or MasterCard,
call 1-800-544-4565
In D.C. Area: 202-331-9653*

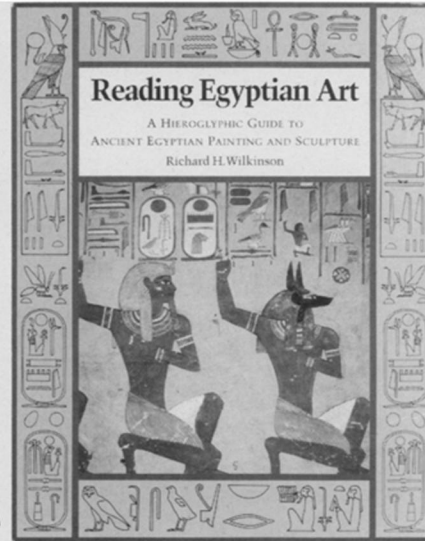
Many Egyptian works of art were designed, in fact, to be "read" symbolically and to provide an underlying message which was an essential part of their composition. Colors, materials, numbers, and especially the forms of the written Egyptian hieroglyphs were all part of this symbolic language which, if it is learned, can open up Egyptian art to an understanding far beyond what is seen by the untrained eye. This book has been designed with this goal in mind — to allow the non-specialist to "read" the major hieroglyphs found in Egyptian painting and sculpture and to understand much of the symbolic content of Egyptian art which is usually only accessible to the trained Egyptologist.

The hieroglyphs are thematically organized and include:
seated man • seated god • woman nursing child • wedjat eye ear • breast • bull • cow • cat • lion • foreleg of ox • heart • falcon • vulture • ibis • wing • feather • crocodile • frog • scarab beetle • bee • tree • palm branch • lotus • sky • sun • star • mountain • horizon • gateway • shrine • barque • brazier • djed column • fetish of Abydos • gold • ankh • fan • bow • knife • cartouche • Isis knot • board game

— from Thames and Hudson



Order by Phone!
1-800-544-4565
(Visa or MasterCard Only)
In D.C. Area:
202-331-9653



Thames and Hudson, 1994, 224 pages, 7" x 9", paperback, \$16.95



Science News Books

1719 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036

Please send _____ copy(ies) of **Reading Egyptian Art**. I include a check payable to Science News Books for \$16.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling (total \$18.95) for each copy. Domestic orders only.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Daytime phone _____
(used only for problems with order)

ReadEgyptArt

RB2099

