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Chaos in Wonderland: Visual Adventures in a Fractal World — Clifford A. Pickover. The author of *Mazes for the Mind*, himself a leader in the intriguing field of scientific visualization, blends mathematics and computer graphics with science fiction to serve up an unusual introduction to chaos. Set on Ganymede, one of Jupiter's moons, the book describes the biology, sociology, and technology of the fictional Latöocarfan civilization, where social status rests on the beauty of one's fractal dreams. Contains a glossary and some informative appendixes, including "The 100 Strangest Mathematical Titles Ever Published." St Martin, 1994, 302 p., b&w photos and illus. and color plates, hardcover, \$29.95.

Learning, Remembering, Believing: Enhancing Human Performance — Daniel Druckman and Robert A. Bjork, eds. Can hypnosis and sleep learning improve performance? Can we learn without making mistakes? Does controversy help or hinder the quality of group decision making? A committee of the National Research Council addresses these and many other questions in this report on the key issues in learning and performance. The book examines common folklore — supporting some long-held ideas and debunking others — outlines today's leading-edge theories, and suggests promising research initiatives. Natl Acad Pr, 1994, 395 p., hardcover, \$39.95.

The Perfect Machine: Building the Palomar Telescope — Ronald Florence. From its conception to its completion, the Palomar telescope spanned nearly three decades. But when the scientists, engineers, and workmen finished their labors almost a half century ago, they had delivered the most famous telescope ever — the 200-inch optical behemoth atop California's Palomar Mountain. The project can truly lay claim to being the United States' first Big Science program, and Florence brings alive both the epic struggle to build the telescope and the people who propelled that effort to fruition. HarperCollins, 1994, 451 p., b&w plates, hardcover, \$27.50.

Turtles, Termites, and Traffic Jams: Explorations in Massively Parallel Microworlds — Mitchel Resnick. Many people prefer to think of life as having a centralized control that gives it order and stability. But many examples from nature, including the behavior of ant colonies or birds flying in formation, reveal a leaderless, self-organized pattern. A denizen of MIT's famed Media Laboratory, Resnick draws on ideas from computer science, education, psychology, and systems theory to examine how and why people resist decentralized ideas. And he describes StarLogo, a new computer language he developed to help students simulate self-organizing behavior. MIT Pr, 1994, 163 p., b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$24.95.

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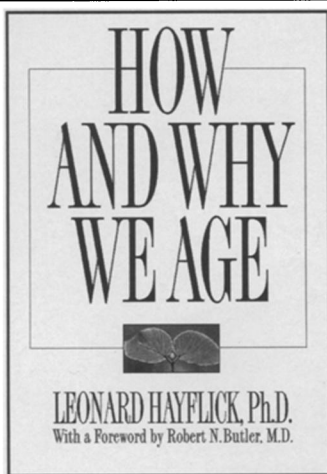
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Ballantine Books, 1994,
377 pages, 6½" x 9½",
hardcover, \$24.00



Based on more than 30 years of pioneering research in the field, preeminent cell biologist Leonard Hayflick presents what we actually know about human aging and explores the philosophical dimensions of what we believe about it. He defines the difference between biological and chronological age and takes a look at how our understanding of aging has changed through history.

HOW AND WHY WE AGE explores not only how our major biological systems change as we grow older, but also examines the intangible alterations in our modes of thinking and feeling, our moods and sexual desires, our personality traits and our memories and shows how aging affects every part of our body. Hayflick also dispels many of the most persistent aging myths and shows:

- Curing cancer would add only 2 years to the average 65-year-old American life. Curing heart disease, however, would add 14 years.
- Hearts do not naturally get weaker with age.
- Middle-aged people who are slightly overweight live longer than people who are very thin or very heavy.
- Regular exercise and a low-fat diet won't slow aging.

— from Ballantine Books

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HowWhyWeAgeH

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