

# Books

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**Chimpanzee Cultures** — Richard W. Wrangham, W.C. McGrew, Frans B.M. de Waal, and Paul G. Heltne, eds. Contributors to this comparative study of chimpanzee and bonobo behavior represent a geographically and scientifically diverse group who study both captive and wild members of these species. On the basis of their analysis of current data on the relationships among biology, ecology, and behavior, these researchers believe they are close to understanding and identifying a chimpanzee culture. Although it varies somewhat from site to site and from species to species, such a culture is nonetheless identifiable, the authors say. The book provides a solid overview of a number of studies substantiating this claim of a chimpanzee culture. HUP, 1994, 424 p., b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$39.95.

**Chronicle of the Pharaohs: The Reign-By-Reign Record of the Rulers and Dynasties of Ancient Egypt** — Peter A. Clayton. Time lines and hundreds of illustrations and photographs of artifacts from tombs and other locations enhance an engaging narrative that presents the history of ancient Egyptian pharaohs and their dynasties in chronological order. Biographical portraits of the pharaohs, including what their names mean and interesting facts about their personalities and families, along with numerous vignettes about significant moments in Egyptian civilization make this a very readable historical account as well as a handy reference. Thames Hudson, 1994, 224 p., b&w and color photos and illus., hardcover, \$29.95.

**Conquering Heart Disease: New Ways to Live Well Without Drugs or Surgery** — Harvey B. Simon. A cardiologist at Massachusetts General Hospital and a founder of the Harvard Cardiovascular Health Center, Simon himself suffers from heart disease. Presented in three sections, this guidebook to maintaining a healthy heart first explains the biology of atherosclerosis and methods for assessing one's risk of it. Section two presents a 15-point lifestyle plan to conquer heart disease. Part three teaches about major tests and treatments for heart disease. Little, 1994, 412 p., hardcover, \$24.95.

**Double-Edged Sword: The Promises and Risks of the Genetic Revolution** — Karl A. Drlica. As advances in molecular genetics pervade everyday life — in the form of prenatal and postnatal identification of disease and DNA fingerprinting, for example — myriad moral, ethical, and health concerns arise. Drlica addresses these issues and explains how the concepts of germline gene therapy apply to each, in theory and in practice. Special emphasis is placed on minimizing risks while maximizing benefits, and each chapter concludes with commentary and practical considerations for doing so. Addison-Wesley, 1994, 242 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$20.00.

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**The Firecracker Boys** — Dan O'Neill. In fictional style, O'Neill recounts the very real story of Project Chariot — a plan initiated by Edward Teller and the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in 1958 to carve a new harbor out of the Alaskan coast by detonating up to six thermonuclear bombs. Opinion at the AEC at that time held that such blasts could be used to create a canal equivalent to the Suez, but it did not take into consideration the environmental ramifications of such a course. O'Neill documents the protests against this project launched by a few Eskimos living in the area and by scientists affiliated with the University of Alaska. Their success marked them as the first environmentalists to help Americans break away from the atomic optimism of the 1950s and begin the environmental movement of the 1960s. St Martin, 1994, 388 p., b&w plates, hardcover, \$24.95.

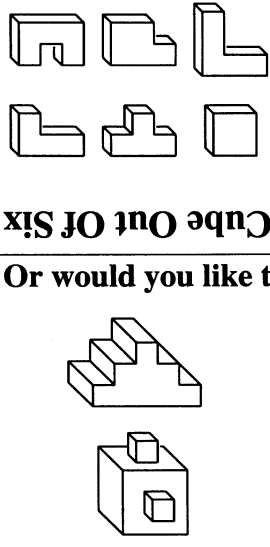
**Keeping Control: Understanding and Overcoming Fecal Incontinence** — Marvin M. Schuster and Jacqueline Wehmueller. Due to a variety of reasons, including childbirth, accidents, and disease, the authors report that two million people suffer from fecal incontinence, which causes the involuntary loss of liquid or solid stool or gas at inappropriate times. In this guidebook to the treatment and management of this condition, the authors explain the digestive system, behavioral treatment, methods of coping, surgical alternatives and when they are appropriate, in addition to offering insights about how to work with a physician to find the cause and the special considerations for older people and children with incontinence. Johns Hopkins, 1994, 166 p., paperback, \$12.95.

**In Other Words: The Science and Psychology of Second-Language Acquisition** — Ellen Bialystok and Kenji Hakuta. By combining research from a variety of fields, including linguistics, anthropology, biology, and psychology, Bialystok and Hakuta explain how it is that people learn language and present methods of learning a second language even as an adult. They touch on the differences in the mental operations associated with learning math and learning language, the traits of some languages that make them easier or more difficult to learn, and the idea of the brain being "hard-wired" to learn language. Basic, 1994, 246 p., hardcover, \$27.00.

**Ornithology** — Frank B. Gill. This encyclopedic reference, now in a second edition, transcends typical volumes about birds by delving into the intricacies of avian evolution, physiology, and behavior. It provides a sound basis for understanding the broader biological implications of the field. A few of the many areas covered are survival methods; social and reproductive behavior; communications skills; and current research in structure and function. An appendix identifies birds and their habits in a general sense. WH Freeman, 1995, 763 p., b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$55.95.

**Prostate Cancer: Making Survival Decisions** — Sylvan Meyer and Seymour C. Nash. Combining their expertise and experiences, Meyer, a journalist and prostate cancer survivor, and Nash, a urologist, provide a primer on prostate cancer. The authors deal with differences between prostate cancer and other kinds of cancer; stages and grades of prostate cancer; side effects; questions that patients should ask; risk of recurrence; mortality rates; available treatments; and other statistics associated with this type of cancer. U Ch Pr, 1994, 264 p., hardcover, \$19.95.

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