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Constructing the Self, Constructing America: A Cultural History of Psychotherapy — Philip Cushman. Even the author, a psychologist, describes this examination of the interaction between psychotherapy and culture as a "strange, unorthodox book." Cushman examines psychotherapy — which he views as a cultural artifact rather than a universal truth — within the broad context of U.S. history to explain its creation, functions, and enormous role in modern life. He concludes that its installation as a social institution may reproduce some of the same ills psychotherapy's founders meant to heal. Addison-Wesley, 1995, 430 p., hardcover, \$27.50.

The Gift Nobody Wants — Paul Brand and Philip Yancey. These personal insights of Brand, a leprosy specialist, provide a unique viewpoint on pain and its importance to our well-being. The plight of lepers, whose loss of the ability to feel pain often causes their death by bodily injury, differs dramatically depending on their culture's attitude toward pain. In India, pain is accepted and expected, whereas Americans have built an industry around pain relievers. He contends that a better understanding of pain is the best way to cope with and overcome it. Originally entitled *Pain* and published in hardcover in 1993. HarperPerennial, 1995, 340 p., paperback, \$13.00.

Noah's Choice: The Future of Endangered Species — Charles C. Mann and Mark L. Plummer. The Endangered Species Act is up for renewal in Congress this year, and Mann and Plummer provide here a provocative and thorough progress report on the legislation. They recount a number of personal interviews illustrating viewpoints — pro and con — of people trying to live within the restrictions of the Act. Among these are particular instances, such as a beetle that stood in the way of building a road to a hospital. In conclusion, the authors cite the rising number of species on the endangered list and offer some ideas for revising the Act that should benefit both humans and dwindling species. Knopf, 1995, 302 p., hardcover, \$24.00.

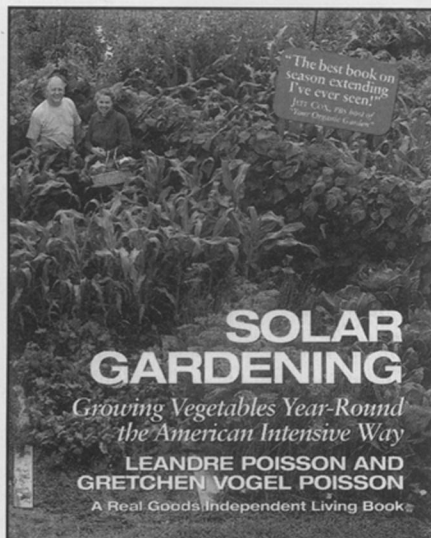
Made in America: An Informal History of the English Language in the United States — Bill Bryson. The author of *The Mother Tongue* proves again, wittily and with a scholarly flair, that language can be fun. Bryson examines American speech and how it evolved and separated from the Queen's English. His account covers not simply the Americanization of English, but the history of America through words — from how Garfield's assassination led to air-conditioning to how a dusty little town with neither holly trees nor woods became world famous as Hollywood. Morrow, 1994, 417 p., hardcover, \$23.00.

Secrets of the Night Sky: The Most Amazing Things in the Universe You Can See with the Naked Eye — Bob Berman. No need for a telescope when you explore the northern night sky with *DISCOVER* magazine's "Night Watchman" columnist. How do you tell a military from a weather satellite? What causes the northern lights? Berman answers these questions and provides detailed instructions for locating each object he describes. Morrow, 1995, 320 p., color plates, b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$23.00.

The Stories Children Tell: Making Sense of the Narratives of Childhood — Susan Engel. Children can weave elaborate tales whether recounting actual events or some enchanting fantasy. But these tales do more than amuse and amaze adults. They serve an essential purpose, enabling children to express and interpret their own experiences and to communicate their evolving world view. Engel, a developmental psychologist, explains such things as the functions of storytelling, the way the process changes as children develop, and the contributions of parents and friends. WH Freeman, 1995, 244 p., hardcover, \$22.95.

Turtles of the United States and Canada — Carl H. Ernst, Jeffrey E. Lovich, and Roger W. Barbour. For all turtle aficionados, this comprehensive review is the first of its kind published in the last 25 years. Recognition, karyotype, fossil record, distribution, geographic variation, confusing species, habitat, behavior, reproduction, biology, growth and longevity, food habits, populations, and a key to species identification are discussed for the 56 species accounted for here. Smithsonian, 1994, 578 p., color plates and b&w photos, hardcover, \$60.00.

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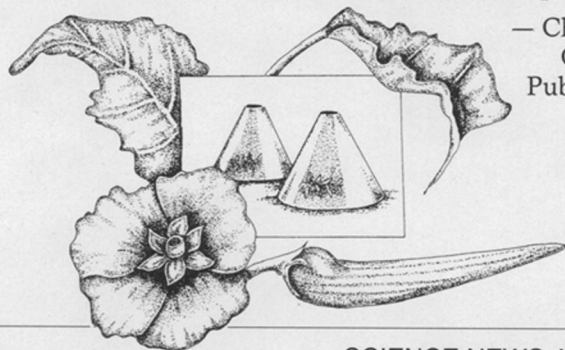
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SOLAR GARDENING shows how to increase the effects of the sun during the coldest months of the year and how to protect tender plants from the intensity of the scorching sun during the hottest months through the use of solar "mini-greenhouses." The book includes instructions for building a variety of solar appliances plus descriptions of more than 90 different crops, with charts showing when to plant and harvest each. In fact, you can grow enough vegetables to feed a family of four on a 40' by 40' plot harvesting everyday of the year. In *Solar Gardening* the Poissons show you how to:

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