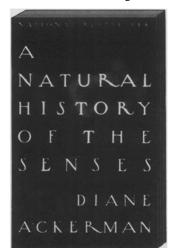
DIANE ACKERMAN'S

A Natural History of the Senses

NATIONAL BESTSELLER

"An aphrodisiac for the sense receptors."
—Chicago Tribune



Also by Diane Ackerman: A Natural History of Love, The Moon By Whalelight, and Jaguar of Sweet Laughter

Available in paperback, or call toll-free to order 1-800-793-2665 (mention code 048-04)

Vintage Books

BINDERS KEEPERS

SCIENCE NEVS Bind and save your copies of Science News!

Keep your copies of *Science News* available for quick, easy reference in this attractive, practical binder.

Simply snap the magazine in or out in a few seconds — no punching or mutilating. It opens flat — for easy reference and readability. Sturdily constructed, this blue vinyl binder stamped in a gold tone will make a fine addition to your library.

Science News binders hold one six-month volume of Science News. Each of the 26 issues snaps into the cover with a metal rod. \$10.95 each, 2 for \$19.95. Postage paid.

All orders must be prepaid.

Order by phone 1-800-544-4565. D.C. area: 202-331-9653, Visa or Master-Card only or send check to:

Science News Books 1719 N Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

RB2304

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.

Close Encounters of the Fourth Kind: Alien Abduction, UFOs, and the Conference at MIT-C.D.B. Bryan. Three years ago, a physicist from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Harvard psychiatrist assembled a group of experts in extraterrestrial encounters-scientists, researchers, folklorists, and individuals who believe they were abducted by space aliens-for a symposium. Bryan covered the 5-day conference and reports on what he learned there. He supplements the text with in-depth interviews with conference participants and sums up with the reflections of one psychiatrist who acknowledges the similarities in the stories of the abductees and concludes that if they were not abducted then a larger psychological phenomenon must be present. Knopf, 1995, 476 p., hardcover, \$25,00.

Conversations on Mind, Matter, and Mathematics—Jean-Pierre Changeux and Alain Connes. Through open dialogue, Changeux, a neurobiologist, and Connes, a mathematician, try to determine whether it will one day be possible to create genuine intelligence out of matter. After first addressing the true nature of mathematical objects and whether they exist independently or in conjunction with the brain, they turn their attention to how the neuron network in the brain functions. They draw on many theories, from Plato to current ethical dilemmas, to make their respective points. Princeton U Pr, 1995, 260 p., b&w illus., hardcover. \$24.95.

Fatal Defect: Chasing Killer Computer Bugs—lvars Peterson. The newest work from Science News' math and physics writer is a chilling account of what to expect when computers fail. Crashed airplanes, medication overdoses, checking account overdrafts due to miscredited funds, and many other scenarios loom as Peterson trails the people who dissect the software defects, design errors, and other computer-related glitches that lie at the heart of these potential catastrophes. He adeptly shows the dilemmas that they—and we—face as ours becomes an increasingly computer-driven society, relying on human-supplied software that is seldom free of glitches. Times Bks, 1995, 260 p., hardcover, \$25.00.

Getting Started in Science Fairs: From Planning to Judging—Phyllis J. Perry. This quintessential guide to science fair planning for students, parents, and teachers touches on every aspect of a fair at the elementary school level. Perry presents more than 70 experiments—each illustrating the scientific method—from nine different disciplines. She also discusses the objectives of a fair, judging, and handy display methods. Other chapters are devoted to the specific role of parents, teachers, and the public, as well as the logistics of arranging a fair. TAB, 1995, 183 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$14.95.

To order by Visa or MasterCard, call 1-800-544-4565

In D.C. Area: 202-331-9653

The Lawnchair Astronomer—Gerry Descoteaux. "With a small to medium-size telescope, you'll gain access to nearly a trillion stars!" declares Descoteaux as he launches into this guidebook to the stars. The author helps amateurs spot and identify the snow-capped poles, comets, the zodiac, planets, and, of course, constellations from any backyard. Included are a seasonal chart of the heavens, entertaining blurbs about famous stargazers, and numerous fascinating facts about stars. Dell, 1995, 144 p., b&w photos and illus., paperback. \$9.95.

Naked Earth: The New Geophysics—Shawna Vogel. Over the past 10 years, geophysicists have made great strides in their efforts to determine what makes up the inner core of Earth. Vogel recaps these breakthroughs and what they can tell us about the shifting of the poles, earthquakes occurring in unlikely locations, the movement of the continents in the past and in the future, and the terrain of the layers of Earth between the surface and the center. Dutton, 1995, 217 p., hard-cover, \$21.95.

Schrödinger's Kittens and the Search for Reality: Solving the Quantum Mysteries—John Gribbin. As a follow-up to his 1984 landmark book In Search of Schrödinger's Cat, Gribbin updates the status of the best explanations of how the universe works by bringing together relativity theory and quantum ideas. He acknowledges the success of quantum theory and from there builds a remarkable treatise on the new theories and puzzles presenting themselves. Gribbin goes on to describe how the quantum debate is unfolding and touches on the possibility of teleportation and uncrackable codes. Little, 1995, 261 p., hardcover, \$23.95.

The Self-Aware Universe: How Consciousness Creates the Material World—Amit Goswami with Richard E. Reed and Maggie Goswami. Intermingling Eastern wisdom and modern physics, a professor of physics argues that consciousness itself—not matter or an objective reality—creates the physical world. Goswami declares that in this sense the universe is self-aware, and he tries to bridge the gap between science and spirituality. If one follows his hypothesis, he believes, one can achieve a paradox-free interpretation of the new physics. Originally published in hardcover in 1993. Putnam, 1995, 319 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$13.95.

The Wolf Almanac—Robert H. Busch. This reference examines the biological, evolutionary, and political aspects of the greatly feared wolf in order to separate fact from myth about these animals. Illustrations enhance the text, which outlines the distribution, physiology, and behavior of wolves. Busch also touches on the role of wolves in human lives. Lyons and Burford, 1995, 226 p., color plates and b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$25.00.

Word Watch: The Stories Behind the Words of Our Lives—Anne H. Soukhanov. The author of the lexicon column "Word Watch" in the ATLANTIC MONTHLY compiles many of the words featured there, in addition to some newly emerging vocabulary that shapes our society and language. The literal heritage and definition of 365 words and phrases grouped thematically include such curious ones as smoodge, blood culture, emporiatrics, olestra, skycar, narcokleptocracy, and hippo. H Holt, 1995, 429 p., hardcover, \$25.00.

SCIENCE NEWS, VOL.147

354