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A Chosen Death: The Dying Confront Assisted Suicide—Lonny Shavelson. Five terminally ill people share with Shavelson their struggle to live and die. The author, a physician, poignantly tells their stories and makes a case for reform in assisted-suicide laws. The situations of each of these individuals is completely different—one suffers from AIDS, another from paralysis, another from stroke, others from cancer—but each has the same mission, which Shavelson ably relays from the perspective of his involvement with them and from personal experience. S&S, 1995, 240 p., b&w photos, hardcover, \$23.00.

Dog Talk: Training Your Dog Through a Canine Point of View—John Ross with Barbara McKinney. A noted animal trainer imparts his wisdom about canine obedience. Ross first explains how to get in touch with your dog's thinking as a sort of pack leader. He emphasizes that the dog owner should be an authoritative figure, controlling the animal by voice, not by physical contact. Next, he outlines a step-by-step course for the basic commands and how to implement these techniques. Finally, Ross describes how to teach good household manners, including housebreaking the dog and stopping unwanted chewing and barking. St Martins, 1995, 276 p., b&w photos, hardcover, \$14.95.

A Field Guide to Germs—Wayne Biddle. From adenovirus to Zika fever, a variety of bacteria and viruses inhabit our planet. Biddle profiles the history and prevalence of more than 70 of these troublesome organisms. He writes with verve as he imparts useful knowledge about such headline-making epidemics as HIV, Epstein-Barr, and hantaviruses, as well as such forgotten, but still lingering, ailments as mumps, measles, and polio. H Holt & Co, 1995, 196 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$22.50.

Hook Up, Get Hired: The Internet Job Search Revolution—Joyce Lain Kennedy. The Internet has opened up a new avenue for those in the job market close to home and far away, reports Kennedy. Here, she guides even the novice Internet user to on-line locations listing employment opportunities and shows how to advertise one's services. Many tips for initiating the search, effectively using the Internet, learning the lingo, and posting in the correct locations make this an easy-to-use guide. Wiley, 1995, 250 p., paperback, \$12.95.

Metapatterns: Across Space, Time, and Mind—Tyler Volk. A metapattern, as defined by Volk, is a universal pattern that recurs in nature, organisms, ecosystems, art, politics, and society. Here Volk identifies 10 such metapatterns that occur in space and time: spheres, borders, sheets and tubes, binaries, centers, layers, calendars, arrows, breaks, and cycles. He demonstrates how these archetypal patterns build forms and define relationships across a remarkable range of disciplines, from art to biology and geometry. Col U Pr, 1995, 296 p., b&w photos/illus., hardcover, \$24.95.

The Northern Forest—David Dobbs and Richard Ober. Focusing on the issues surrounding the 26-million-acre Northern Forest, which stretches from upper New York across northern New England to the coast of Maine, the authors assume the vantage point of five residents: a mill worker, a forester, a logger, a fishing guide, and a tree farmer. The interviews reflect their concerns about the continued vitality of the forest. The authors cite, for instance, the sale of a large number of small parcels of land to real estate developers planning to build vacation homes in the 1980s. These sales caused massive clearcutting and other problems in the forest. Dobbs and Ober look at all the issues and provide the many different perspectives necessary for formulating a policy that will maintain the forest's viability. Chelsea Green Pub., 1995, 356 p., hardcover, \$23.00.

Speaking Minds: Interviews with Twenty Eminent Cognitive Scientists—Peter Baumgartner and Sabine Payr, eds. The editors have created a volume that is both an introduction to the field of artificial intelligence (AI) and a thoughtful discussion of its status. They record the responses of a number of luminaries in the field to questions about AI in general and its progress and ultimate possibilities in particular. Interviewees include Paul Churchland, John R. Searle, Terry A. Winograd, and Daniel C. Dennett. Princeton U Pr, 1995, 342 p., hardcover, \$29.95.

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The Bell Curve

Intelligence and Class Structure
in American Life

by Richard J. Herrnstein and
Charles Murray

The major purpose of *The Bell Curve* is to reveal the dramatic transformation that is currently in process in American society—a process that has created a new kind of class structure led by a “cognitive elite,” itself a result of concentration and self-selection in those social pools well endowed with cognitive abilities. This transformation, sadly, has its opposite: the perpetuation of a class of people deficient in these endowments and abilities, and increasingly doomed to labor, if they find work at all, outside the information economy.

Herrnstein and Murray break new ground in exploring the ways that low intelligence, independent of social, economic, or ethnic background lies at the root of many of our social problems. The authors also demonstrate the truth of another taboo fact: that intelligence levels differ among ethnic groups. In *The Bell Curve*, Herrnstein and Murray open this body of scholarship to the general public.

— from Free Press

Free Press, 1994, 845 pages,
6 1/2" x 9 1/2", hardcover, \$30.00

The Bell Curve Wars

Race, Intelligence, and the
Future of America

Edited by Steven Fraser

The Bell Curve has generated a firestorm of debate, confirming for some their secret belief in the innate inferiority of certain “races” or ethnic groups, angering many who view the book as an ill-concealed racist manifesto, and worrying untold others who fear the further racial polarization of American society. In *The Bell Curve Wars*, a group of 20 of our country's most distinguished intellectuals including, Richard Nisbett, Howard Gardner, and Alan Wolfe dismantles the alleged scientific foundations and criticizes the alarming public policy conclusions of this incendiary book.

Anyone who has wondered about the connection among genes, race, and intelligence, all those anxious about racial antagonisms in our nation, those who question the efficacy of social welfare programs, all those troubled but unconvinced by Herrnstein and Murray's book, will want to read *The Bell Curve Wars*.

— from Basic Books

Basic Books, 1995, 216 pages,
5 1/2" x 8", paperback, \$10.00

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