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The Big Family Guide to All the Minerals—Frank Murray. Virtually everything anyone would need or want to know about minerals and their attributes as well as negative effects can be found within these pages. Noting that most people in the United States receive less than 70 percent of the Recommended Dietary Allowance of the basic minerals, Murray clearly explains the effects of deficiencies and the importance of minerals to human health. Information about chelation therapy and the effects of other minerals on disease are also discussed. Keats, 1995, 440 p., hardcover, \$24.95.

Fire in the Mind: Science, Faith, and the Search for Order—George Johnson. Focusing on the seemingly conflicting cultures that thrive in northern New Mexico, science writer Johnson compares the work of researchers at the Santa Fe Institute and Los Alamos National Laboratory with the ancient methods and beliefs of their indigenous neighbors. Johnson looks at science as discovery and as a construction in which we build artificial structures to answer grand questions about the origins of the universe. He dissects quantum theory, complexity theory, and Darwinian evolution, among other widely accepted theories, and compares them to the belief systems of the Tewa Indians and a Roman Catholic sect called the Penitentes to show how different people attempt to understand life's deepest mysteries. Knopf, 1995, 379 p., hardcover, \$27.50.

The Other Side of the Couch: The Healing Bond in Psychiatry—Gail Albert. Albert takes the reader inside the offices of 12 effective psychiatrists and psychotherapists in the New York City area to reveal how they practice the art and science of psychotherapy. Their methods for melding empathy with pharmacology are presented, in addition to other important facets of their practice, from office decor to listening techniques. Albert successfully relays the personal feelings of these professionals for their patients—practitioners and patients remain anonymous in the book—and how they control those feelings while maintaining the healing bond. Faber & Faber, 1995, 223 p., hardcover, \$22.95.

The Private Life of Plants—David Attenborough. This companion to a BBC program to air in the United States this fall does what Attenborough does best: delivers an intimate view of the natural world. Through careful examination of more than 300 plants, the author shows how they communicate, see, position themselves, attack, and even count—abilities only recently recognized by biologists. Orchids that impersonate female wasps and hedgerow flowers that face the western sun in the evening and turn to the east during the night are among the intriguing species presented. Princeton U Pr, 1995, 320 p., color photos, hardcover, \$26.95.

Protecting Your Baby-to-Be: Preventing Birth Defects in the First Trimester—Margie Profet. An award-winning evolutionary biologist contends that a pregnant woman's morning sickness actually protects the embryo from toxins that occur naturally in many plants, vegetables, herb teas, and bacteria that women consume. A list of foods to stay away from, those to seek, and methods of dealing with nausea are listed, as are other means of protecting a baby during the first trimester. Addison-Wesley, 1995, 312 p., hardcover, \$20.00.

Pyramids of Túcume: The Quest for Peru's Forgotten City—Thor Heyerdahl, Daniel H. Sandweiss, and Alfredo Narvaez. Built some 900 years ago by the Lambayaque people, the pyramids of Túcume yielded many artifacts recovered intact. The authors offer a thorough overview of the myths, culture, and technology of this region, which is enhanced by stunning photographs and diagrams. Thames Hudson, 1995, 240 p., color and b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$29.95.

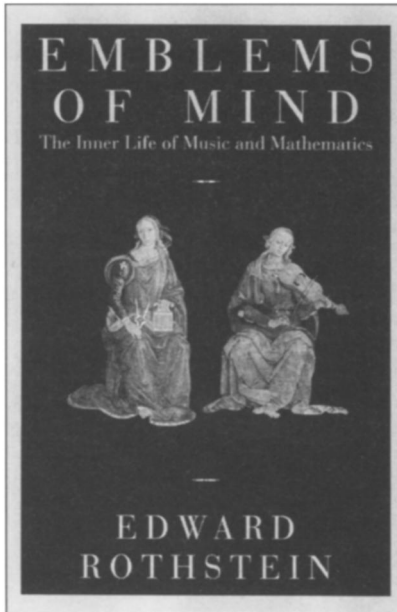
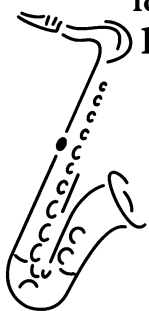
The Quantum Dot: A Journey into the Future of Microelectronics—Richard Turton. Beginning with a historical treatise on the rise of semiconductors, their counterparts, and how they work, this survey of microelectronics focuses on the phenomenal future that lies ahead. Microchips with more than a billion bits, high-temperature superconductors, and incredibly small and fast designer atoms are just a few advances Turton predicts. In addition, he tells about devices in which electrons behave not as particles but as waves and about computers with no electrical signals, only beams of light. OUP, 1995, 211 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$25.00.

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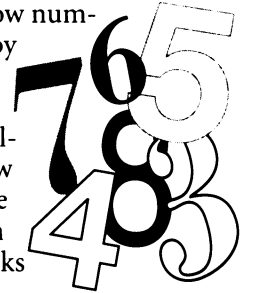
Times Books, 1995,
263 pages, 6 1/4" x 9 1/2",
hardcover, \$25.00



In this elegant exploration, Edward Rothstein, the chief music critic for *The New York Times*, reveals the inner lives of mathematics and music, how these activities work, what it feels like to be immersed in them, and where they lead. Even though one is a science, the other an art, their common origins in cult and mystery, their links in history, and their continuing intersections point to profound similarities. Both begin in the world and then create abstractions that lead to unexpected realms; both are concerned with proportion and ratio; both are also poetic activities, relying upon metaphor and image.

As Rothstein proceeds on this remarkable journey, he explains how mathematics makes sense of space, how music creates a story, how num-

bers are examined, and how melody works. Compositions by Bach, Beethoven, and Chopin are explored; mathematical puzzles and elaborate theories of topology are described. Rothstein discusses the Golden Rectangle as well as the development of Romanticism; the trope used to chant the Hebrew Bible as well as the swing of telephone cords; the importance of style in mathematics as well as the nature of the "High" in that now-contested term "High Art." —from Times Books



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