

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 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. Domestic orders only.

Bombardier Beetles and Fever Trees: A Close-Up Look at Chemical Warfare and Signals in Animals and Plants—William Agosta. Plants and animals throughout the natural world react to the enormous variety of chemical organisms produced and excreted. For example, bees sting when agitated; and some salamanders court by rubbing the male's cheek, which excretes pheromones against the female's snout. Agosta explains how these chemicals work and gives the reader a sampling of organisms and the natural chemicals associated with them. He goes on to discuss how humans harness the power of these chemicals to fight disease. Addison-Wesley, 1996, 224 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$25.00.

Future Health: Computers and Medicine in the Twenty-First Century—Clifford A. Pickover, ed. Some of the most practical advances in medical education and the profession of medicine are presented in essay format by writers from a wide range of fields that contribute to medical technology. According to these essayists, in the near future we can expect to see robot surgeons assisting in hip replacement operations, medical students studying virtual cadavers, and artificial intelligence playing a role in medical diagnosis, in addition to digital dentistry, the use of electronic gophers to collect medical information, and computer conferencing for consultations. St. Martin, 1995, 184 p., b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$23.95.

Naturalist—Edward O. Wilson. In this autobiography, Wilson begins with the inspirations of his earliest years, which led him to Harvard University. He emerged as one of the world's leading biologists, especially noted for his pioneering work in the study of chemical communication in ants and other social insects. Further along, he documents his evolutionary approach to biology. The ensuing strife around this new science of sociobiology, whose name he coined, is recaptured here. Originally published in hardcover in 1994. Warner, 1995, 380 p., b&w plates, paperback, \$11.99.

Pale Blue Dot: A Vision of the Human Future in Space—Carl Sagan. In a sequel to *Cosmos*, his acclaimed book and television series, Sagan once again appeals to our wandering spirit by arguing that we urgently need to continue space travel and, eventually, to colonize space. Stunning color photographs enhance his discussion of the most important discoveries made by space missions over the past 15 years. Originally published in hardcover in 1994. Random, 1995, 429 p., color photos and illus., paperback, \$22.00.

The Scientific Companion: Exploring the Physical World with Facts, Figures, and Formulas—Cesare Emiliani. The fundamentals of physics, astronomy, chemistry, geology, meteorology, biology, atmospheric science, and oceanography as they have emerged through history are introduced here to bridge the gap between popular science books and college textbooks. Emiliani's provides "a quantitative basis" in describing the rise and evolution of the world and he guides the reader through the most common mathematical equations. Wiley, 1995, 358 p., b&w photos and illus., paperback, \$19.95.

The Story of Astronomy—Lloyd Motz and Jefferson Hane Weaver. This lively treatise tracks the major theories that have emerged from the once far-fetched ideas of Pythagoras, Galileo, Kepler, and other luminaries. It also describes the influences of other fields, such as physics, chemistry, and mathematics, on astronomy. The authors incorporate into this wide-ranging historical account modern topics ranging from the inception of the universe to an understanding of phenomena such as white dwarves, red giant stars, and superclusters of galaxies. Plenum, 1995, 387 p., b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$28.95.

The Wild Lawn Handbook: Alternatives to the Traditional Front Lawn—Stevie Daniels. If you dare to break away from an ecologically unsound, expensive, and water-hungry lawn landscape, then seek out the grasses and native flowers of your region and begin the transformation, advises Daniels. After first identifying four types of lawn alternatives—prairie, meadow, moss, and groundcover—she shows how to pick the best solution for a given area. She bases her choices on the ecology of an area, the amount of maintenance it will require, and other objectives, such as the affinity of these plants for other garden varieties. A concluding chapter outlines common community ordinances and ways of dealing with opposition to an alternative landscape. Macmillan, 1995, 223 p., color plates, hardcover, \$20.00.

To order by Visa or MasterCard, call
1-800-544-4565
 In D.C. Area: 202-331-9653

The Orion Mystery is the story of a secret, hidden for thousands of years, that will forever change our understanding of the meaning and purpose of the most fascinating wonder of the ancient world: the Pyramids of Egypt.

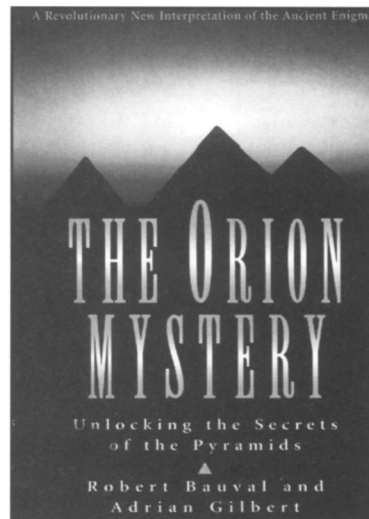
What purpose did these massive structures, one of the largest construction projects ever undertaken, serve? Why were they scattered across the desert in a seemingly random pattern?

Robert Bauval has spent the last ten years investigating the pyramids themselves and the Pyramid Texts, the oldest writings known to mankind. He and Adrian Gilbert have uncovered, for the first time, the key to the plan that governed the construction of the pyramids. They reveal that, much more than just tombs, the pyramids were nothing less than a replica of Heaven on Earth. With great astronomical precision, they were created to serve as the Pharaoh's gateway to the stars.



Dramatic and compelling, *The Orion Mystery* leads us step-by-step through these remarkable discoveries. It will be hailed as a historic achievement by all who are intrigued by the world's ancient mysteries.

— from Crown Publishers



To order by phone, call:
1-800-544-4565
 (Visa or MasterCard Only)
 In D.C. Area:
 202-331-9653

Crown Publishers, 1994,
 325 pages, 6" x 9 1/4",
 hardcover, \$14.00

Science News Books OrionMyst
 1719 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036

Please send _____ copy(ies) of *The Orion Mystery*. I include a check payable to Science News Books for \$14.00 plus \$2.00 postage and handling (total \$16.00) for each copy. Domestic orders only.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Daytime Phone _____
(used only for problems with order) RB2427