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**Amber: Window to the Past**—David A. Grimaldi. Born of an amber exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History, this colorful tome investigates the mysteries of life captured in ancient tree resin and the role of amber in history and art. Some of the great discoveries are chronicled, such as a stingless bee trapped in amber that led to a revised dating of the appearance of flowering plants. Chapters on the sources of amber around the world; its uses in ancient times, in Etruscan funerary figures, and in Renaissance altarpieces; and even forgeries round out this broad volume. Abrams, 1996, 216 p., color and b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$49.50.

**The Crystal Clear Guide to Sight for Life: A Complete Manual of Eye Care for Those Over 40**—Johnny L. Gayton and Jan Roadarmel Ledford. This primer of ophthalmology itemizes the various ailments that can assail the eye and describes symptoms, treatments, and preventive measures for each. A thorough understanding of the eye—how it works and how it should be cared for—is also imparted. Starburst, 1996, 413 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$15.95.

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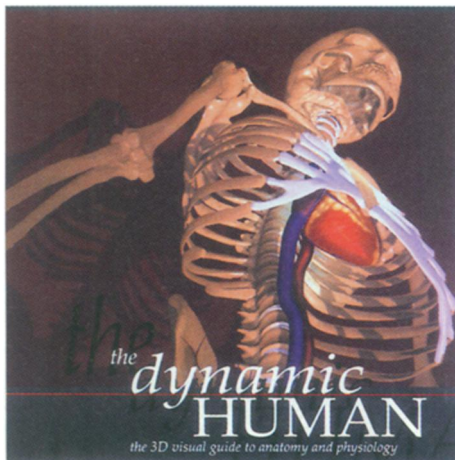
**The Demon-Haunted World: Science as a Candle in the Dark**—Carl Sagan. Reflecting on the role of his profession in the lives of humankind, noted scientist and author Sagan looks toward the emergence and prominence of pseudoscience. He opens the door to the world of superstition, the paranormal, and their offshoots—alien encounters, channeling, recovered memory syndrome, the face on Mars, and so on—and methodically debunks each of these notions. He postulates the necessity, especially in these times, of having a working understanding of scientific theory in order to effectively address current issues ranging from the environment to genetic engineering. He further decries the ever increasing public ignorance about science, which tends to discount hard knowledge in favor of easy and compelling theories founded in pseudoscience. Random, 1995, 457 p., hardcover, \$25.95.

**Northwest Exposures: A Geologic Story of the Northwest**—David Alt and Donald W. Hyndman. Two geology professors recount the tumultuous history of the part of Earth ranging from Northern California to middle Montana to the Canadian border. Two billion years ago, the Idaho border was oceanfront property. Since then, a series of cataclysmic events, including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and ice age floods, have shaped the contours of the land. Alt and Hyndman chronologically chart the hows and whys of these events. They also offer some opinions that conflict with theirs, providing insight into the research and debates within this geologic community. Mountain Pr, 1995, 443 p., b&w photos and illus., paperback, \$24.00.

**Pharaohs and Kings: A Biblical Quest**—David M. Rohl. An Egyptologist contends that many archaeologists look in the right places for evidence of the early books of the Old Testament but in the wrong time. For example, most historians believe that David and Solomon lived during Iron Age IIA (around 1000 to 900 B.C.), but Rohl presents evidence that they lived during the late Bronze Age (about 1350 to 1250 BC). He argues that the length of the Third Intermediate Period is typically exaggerated and supports his new chronology in this informative and visual tour of Israel. As he visits cities, palaces, and tombs, he also provides compelling archaeological evidence for the existence of Joseph, Moses, Joshua, and Saul. Published abroad in 1995 as *A Test of Time*. Crown Pub Group, 1996, 425 p., color plates and b&w photos and illus., hardcover, \$37.50.

**The Stone Age Present: How Evolution Has Shaped Modern Life—From Sex, Violence, and Language to Emotions, Morals, and Communities**—William F. Allman. A science writer for U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, Allman surveys the emerging field of evolutionary psychology, which holds that the ability to make friends and cooperate sets us apart from other creatures. He argues that as societies grow, our ability to interact effectively is being tested, causing stress, eating disorders, and so on. To support these arguments, Allman explains how our brains are equipped to function socially. Originally published in hardcover in 1994. Touchstone, 1995, 286 p., paperback, \$12.00.

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