

The Weekly Newsmagazine of Science

# SCIENCE NEWS

July 6, 1996  
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Pages 1-16

**When  
Planes  
*Cloud*  
the **Climate****



Harmony Books, 1996, 278 pages, 5½"x 8½", hardcover, \$25.00

The contending theories of human evolution hold a special fascination for those who question the origin of human nature. In this book, prominent paleobiologist Steven M. Stanley proposes a bold new theory to answer the classic chicken-or-egg question of human evolution: Which came first, our bipedalism or the unprecedented size of our brain?

With insight and remarkable common sense, Stanley argues that the confluence of environmental factors and developmental imperatives is the key to the mysteriously swift evolution from *Australopithecus* to *Homo* 2.5 million years ago. While the human brain is one of the most remarkable achievements of evolution, Stanley shows that it is intimately tied to our species' slow maturation and "postnatal helplessness," which requires extremely attentive parenting, particularly constant lifting and carrying of infants. This trade-off, which Stanley calls a "great evolutionary compromise," indicates that no tree-dwelling species could develop large brains. But if abandoning the trees was an evolutionary requisite for large brains, what can explain why our ancestors would choose the far more dangerous grassy terrain of Africa in the first place? A catastrophic change in the global climate is the answer Stanley unfolds in this anthropological detective story.

Gracefully written and provocative in its hypothesis, *Children of the Ice Age* puts Steven M. Stanley in the mainstream of a popular scientific debate—one that holds urgent lessons for today.

—from Harmony Books

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"Steve Stanley, an brilliant and historic colleague in the study of life's history, has developed a powerful and compelling hypothesis for the most crucial step in human evolution—the descent from the trees to a life on the ground. He has shown how the emergence of a new size of human origin." —Stephen Jay Gould, author of *Jurassic Mind* and *Wonderful Life*

# CHILDREN OF THE ICE AGE



HOW A GLOBAL CATASTROPHE  
 ALLOWED HUMANS TO EVOLVE  
 STEVEN M. STANLEY



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Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copy(ies) of *Children of the Ice Age*. I include a check payable to Science News Books for \$25.00 plus \$2.00 postage and handling for each book (total \$27.00). Domestic orders only.

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Reflecting the latest cutting-edge research, *Good News About High Blood Pressure* explains new technological breakthroughs, such as ambulatory monitoring, the best mainstream treatments for high blood pressure and high cholesterol, and the pros and cons of alternative treatments such as vitamins, herbs, and medication.

Dr. Pickering reminds us that people suffering from hypertension do not necessarily exhibit any visible signs of stress. In fact, hypertension most often produces no symptoms whatsoever, which is what makes it so deadly. This "invisible disease," which plagues its victims for life, can lead to heart disease and strokes.

Dr. Pickering shows hypertension patients how to take charge of themselves by learning to monitor their own blood pressure and by making appropriate changes in their lifestyle. In order to control high blood pressure, he emphasizes, one must deal with the other risk factors for heart disease, such as smoking, excess weight, and high cholesterol. Accessible and informative, the book discusses recently released studies about the possible impact of red wine, homocysteine, the obesity hormone leptin, and folic acid on high blood pressure.

—from Simon & Schuster

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# GOOD NEWS ABOUT HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

How to Take Control of Hypertension... AND YOUR LIFE



THOMAS PICKERING, M.D.

Simon & Schuster, 1996, 334 pages, 6¼" x 9½", hardcover, \$23.00

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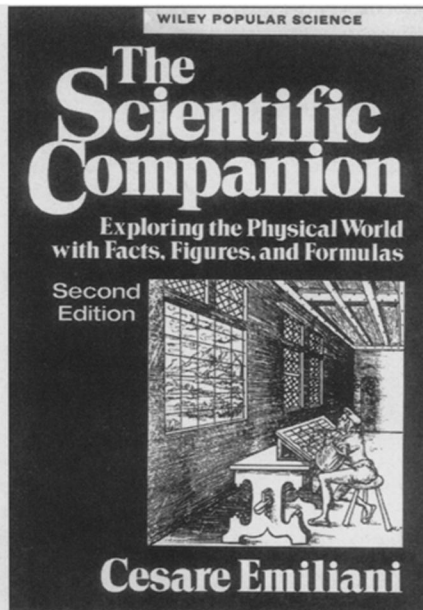
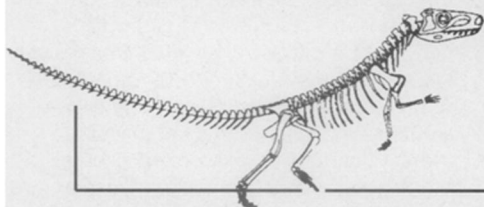
Cesare Emiliani, a professor of geological sciences, offers readers a fascinating and comprehensive course in the physical sciences—physics, astronomy, chemistry, geology, meteorology, and biology—in the newly updated *The Scientific Companion*.

Emiliani discusses each topic at a level the average reader can understand, fully explaining each formula and theory, and also going into enough detail to make this a helpful book for students and teachers.

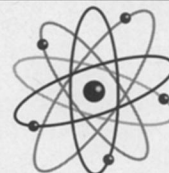
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— from John Wiley & Sons



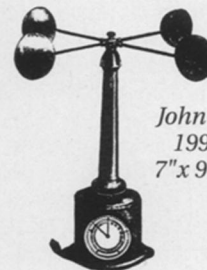
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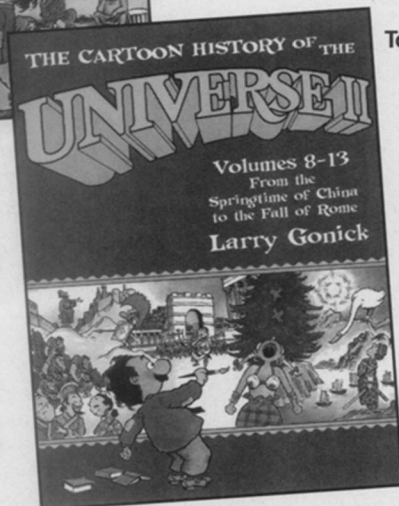
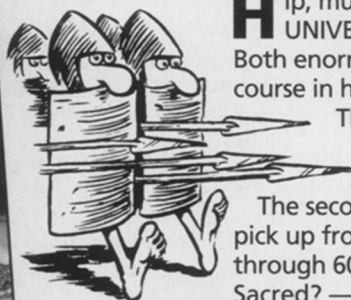
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Doubleday, 1990,  
358 pages,  
8 1/2" x 11",  
paperback, \$17.50

Doubleday, 1994,  
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