

# Books

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**The Casebook of Forensic Detection: How Science Solved 100 of the World's Most Baffling Crimes**—Colin Evans. This survey of 100 case studies charts the progress of scientific detective work through the last 2 centuries, highlighting cases that set precedent within the scientific and law-enforcement communities. Each chapter is devoted to a specific type of criminal science, such as ballistics, explosives, toxicology, and odontology (the study of teeth marks, which sealed Ted Bundy's fate). The cases provide a compelling history of both the acts of criminals and forensic procedures. Wiley, 1996, 310 p., b&w photos, hardcover, \$24.95.

**Dinosaurs of the Flaming Cliffs**—Michael Novacek. Closed to Western scientists for more than 60 years, the fossil-rich Gobi Desert was first revisited by a group of scientists led by Novacek 6 years ago. His team successfully amassed some of the largest and most valuable dinosaur discoveries of the last 50 years. One such grouping of dinosaurs was entombed in a sand storm some 80 million years ago, and was left virtually intact until Novacek and his crew unearthed it. Novacek relates the events of this discovery, sharing the fruits of their labor, including a nest of eggs that encased the first known embryos of meat-eating dinosaurs, new skeletons of birdlike theropod dinosaurs, and fossil remains of previously unknown mammals. Anchor NY, 1996, 367 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$24.95.

**The Extraordinary Story of Life on Earth**—Piero Angela and Alberto Angela. Readers are transformed into explorers as they follow this log of events charting the 4-billion-year history of life on Earth. Condensed into a single year, life begins on January 1 of the log. The complex, nucleated cell emerges in the second half of August, with dinosaurs dominating in early December. This simulated voyage and the "observations" charted here are based on findings in fields ranging from biochemistry to astrophysics. They provide a well-rounded view of the elements that play a role in the development of life in an accessible format. Prometh Pr, 1996, 395 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$28.95.

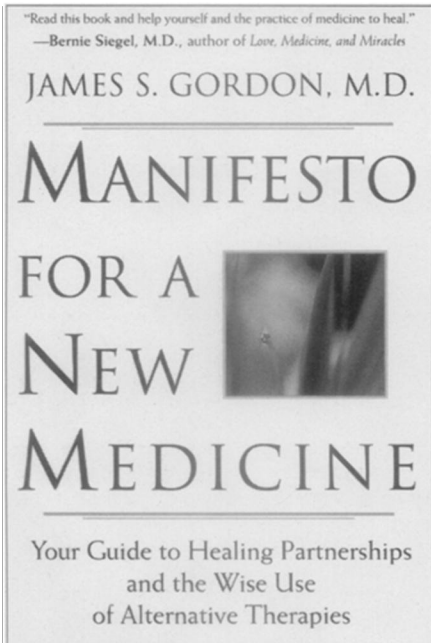
**In Search of Nature**—Edward O. Wilson. This collection of essays provides a fine introduction to those unfamiliar with Wilson's flair for portraying the social behavior of animals and how it relates to humans. Those revisiting Wilson's world will also welcome his latest ideas on the wide range of topics spanning his expertise. He explores biophilia (humanity's affiliation with nature) through delightful essays on snakes, sharks, and ants. His description of the role of aggression and altruism in primates leads to a discussion about the possible role of homosexuals in human society. And he celebrates biodiversity by explaining its fundamental importance to the continued existence of humanity. Island Pr, 1996, 214 p., hardcover, \$19.95.

**Reflections of Eden: My Years with the Orangutans of Borneo**—Biruté M.F. Galdikas. In the tradition of Jane Goodall (chimpanzees) and Dian Fossey (mountain gorillas), Galdikas details life among another primate species: orangutans. She ventured into the Indonesian jungle in 1971 and, with her husband, closely observed some formerly captive orangutans. Here she chronicles the animals' personalities, their life cycle, and the threats that menace them. Originally published in hardcover in 1995. Back Bay, 1996, 408 p., b&w photos, paperback, \$13.95.

**River Out of Eden: A Darwinian View of Life**—Richard Dawkins. Why do trees grow tall in a forest? Why is the sex ratio about 50:50 when relatively few males are needed to impregnate many females? Why do we inherit genes for fatal illnesses? The answers lie in our genetic destiny, contends Dawkins. An environmental biologist, Dawkins views living beings as gene carriers whose primary purpose is to pass on their own DNA. Originally published in hardcover in 1995. Basic, 1996, 172 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$10.00

**Wolves: A Wildlife Handbook**—Kim Long. This guidebook presents the fact and folklore surrounding the wolf, which is currently rebounding after near extinction. The book's identification charts are accompanied by vital statistics about each species and its prey. Chapters on taxonomy, anatomy, and communication provide many facts about wolves and explain their roles within nature. Long also discusses humanity's impact on wolves. Johnson Bks, 1996, 179 p., color and b&w illus., paperback, \$15.95.

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Addison-Wesley, 1996, 358 pages, 6 1/4" x 9 1/2",  
hardcover, \$25.00