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Conjuring Science: Scientific Symbols and Cultural Meanings in American Life—Christopher P. Tourney. Most people in the United States recognize the symbols of science as authoritative. But what happens when that trust is exploited by advertisers or policy makers? Tourney argues that the lack of public understanding of scientific knowledge or reasoning makes manipulation of the masses easy. He points to TV doctors hawking medical products, a zoologist predicting earthquakes and public policy regarding HIV/AIDS based on misconceptions as indicators of this phenomenon. Rutgers U Pr, 1996, 197 p., paperback, \$16.95.

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The Encyclopedia of Medicinal Plants: A Practical Reference Guide to More than 550 Key Medicinal Plants and Their Uses-Andrew Chevallier. This compendium encompasses the history and folklore of plants as medicine around the world and serves as a graphic encyclopedia of 550 of these plants. Each entry dissects the key constituents of a particular plant, along with the research done on that plant, traditional and current uses of it, and preparations and parts of the plant used. Dorling Kindersley, 1996, 336 p., color photos/illus., hardcover, \$39.95.

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 the Los Alamos National Laboratory with the lives and beliefs of their neighbors, such as the Tewa Indians and the Roman Catholic Hermanos Penitentes. Johnson dissects quantum theory, complexity theory, and Darwinian evolution, among other widely accepted theories, and compares them to the belief systems of these peoples. Originally published in hardcover in 1995. Vin, 1996, 379 p., paperback, \$14.00.

Lives of North American Birds-Kenn Kaufman. Geared to the bird enthusiast who wants to know more than just what birds look like and where they live, this encyclopedia provides information about diet, behavior, nesting habits, migration patterns, habitat and history, and young. Most entries are accompanied by color photographs and a range map, which help in seeking out the 900 birds listed. HM, 1996, 675 p., color photos/illus., hardcover, \$35.00.

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