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At Large: The Strange Case of the World's Biggest Internet Invasion—David H. Freedman and Charles C. Mann. Capable of breaking the security of NASA's and MIT's computer networks, the "cracker" known as Phantomd led the FBI on a 2-year-long chase. Then, once Phantomd's identity was known, the FBI decided not to prosecute. Frighteningly true, Phantomd's story ping-pongs from town to town as he "visits" networks nationwide seemingly at will. Interviews with those involved and a chronicle of the events in this break-in spree frame a discussion about how vulnerable computer networks are and the dynamics of the subculture surrounding them. S&S, 1997, 315 p., hardcover, \$24.00.

Braving the Elements: The Stormy History of American Weather—David Laskin. No other continent on the planet can boast the variety of weather phenomena that assaults North America. Laskin exploits this diversity in a historical survey of meteorological wonders from searing heat to hurricanes. He shows how weather conditions have been forecast and experienced by people throughout the ages, from Paleo-Indians to immigrating Europeans. Throughout, Laskin provides "snapshots" of sudden weather occurrences, their results, and how people have come to explain and cope with the virtual chaos known as weather. Originally published in hardcover in 1996. Anchor NY, 1997, 241 p., b&w plates, paperback, \$12.95.

Complete Guide to Psychotherapy Drugs and Psychological Disorders—H. Winter Griffith, Daniel Levinson, Miriam L. Levinson. General information about psychological disorders and their treatment through medication and talk therapy is followed by charts outlining symptoms and treatments for 36 disorders and charts detailing side effects, interactions with other drugs and foods, and dosage for 300 brand-name and 90 generic psychotherapy drugs. Body Pr-Pedigree, 1997, 218 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$13.00.

Do Your Ears Pop in Space?: And 500 Other Surprising Questions About Space Travel—R. Mike Mullane. If you have a burning desire to be catapulted into space, this book tells how much you will be paid as an astronaut and addresses the mundane concerns of space travel, such as how you can expect to sleep in the space shuttle. A former shuttle astronaut answers the most popular questions he encountered as he toured the country speaking about his experiences. Wiley, 1997, 240 p., b&w photos/illus., paperback, \$14.95.

Hummingbirds: A Wildlife Handbook—Kim Long. They're the smallest birds, but they have the biggest appetites for their size. Their plumage was once a hot commodity in the fashion industry. They are, of course, the tiny hummingbird, and this guide details their rich heritage in lore and their evolution. Color photos are accompanied by easy-to-use charts that identify each species by call, range, physical characteristics, and so on, as well as an in-depth look at the nesting, mating, cleaning, food, flight, molting, and anatomy of these avian wonders as a whole. Johnson Bks, 1997, 182 p., color/b&w photos/illus., paperback, \$15.95.

The Inflationary Universe: The Quest for a New Theory of Cosmic Origins—Alan H. Guth. Despite some initial hostility, Guth's theory of inflation, which defines the "bang" in the Big Bang, won prompt acceptance as a revolutionary contribution to cosmology and has now become almost the standard model for the universe. Recent observations by the Cosmic Background Explorer provide some support for the theory. Guth relays the personal story of how he came to understand the universe's growth from a volume smaller than an atom. He also addresses how inflation can explain why certain regions are dense with galaxies and others almost empty, even if matter was at first distributed evenly throughout the universe. Addison-Wesley, 1997, 358 p., b&w photos/illus., hardcover, \$25.00.

The Perfect Storm: A True Story of Men Against the Sea—Sebastian Junger. Waves crest at over 100 feet. Winds whip faster than 100 miles an hour. Clouds swirl downward "like water in a drain." The dry arctic air wraps one-and-a-half times around the low before spinning to the center of the storm. These are elements of what meteorologists call the perfect storm—a once-in-a-century event. In this gripping tale, Junger tells of fishermen who were caught at sea in just such a storm in 1991. By analyzing meteorological phenomena to elucidate how storms work, scrutinizing interviews with survivors and rescue workers, and examining the mechanics of drowning, he pieces together a likely and riveting account of the sailors' fate. Norton, 1997, 227 p., hardcover, \$23.95.

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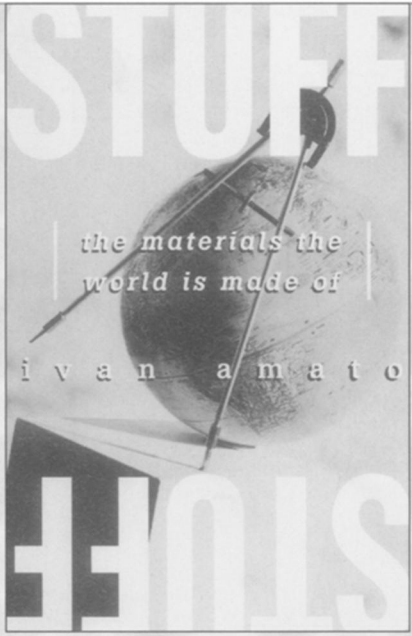
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*Basic Books, 1997, 294 pages
 6 1/4" x 9 1/8", hardcover, \$25.00*



From plastics to smart materials to never-before-seen composites, scientists have transformed the raw materials of the wilderness into the stuff of the modern world. Now, award-winning journalist Ivan Amato explores this fascinating science.

Prehistory was stuck in the Stone Age partly because its inhabitants lacked the scientific know-how to smelt iron from rocky ores. The Industrial Revolution owed its birth to the geniuses who figured out how to make large amounts of steel. The postwar United States can thank or hang in effigy John Wesley Hyatt, who gave us plastics. And, the rise or fall of the United States in the 21st century may well depend on how far ahead it remains in the development of smart materials. The most important factor in technological progress today is the ability of the materials scientist to take apart and reconfigure the physical stuff of the world into substances that have never existed naturally on Earth.

Much more than a history of the materials sciences, *Stuff* brims with interviews with cutting-edge experts in those fields, many of whom are building new materials atom by atom, and describes such astounding achievements as how artificial diamonds are created from peanut butter and how nanotechnologists are building new-age, state-of-the-art machines no thicker than a few hundred atoms. Compelling and informative, *Stuff* gives readers a marvelous glimpse into the modern world of technology and the smart materials that are at the forefront of tomorrow's breakthroughs in computers, military weaponry, electronics, and more.

—from Basic Books