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The Big Book of Gardening Secrets—Charles W.G. Smith. Maybe you've heard some of these ideas before, but Smith intersperses tips for successfully planting, growing, and sustaining bountiful vegetables, herbs, berries, flowers, shrubs, and fruit trees with solid horticulture lessons all in one book. The basics of soil chemistry and composting preface chapters identifying plants and detailing the specific needs of each specimen. Storey Comm Inc, 1998, 341 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$22.95.



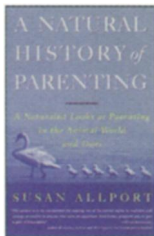
The Code of Kings: The Language of Seven Sacred Maya Temples and Tombs—Linda Schele and Peter Mathews. Featuring seven sites that embody elements the ancient Maya considered necessary to charge a building with religious and political meaning, Schele and Mathews explain how to "read" religious and political art and architecture. The authors are widely recognized as the first glyph breakers of the Mayan hieroglyphs etched on the walls of these sites. The glyphs reveal the belief system and history of the people as a whole. The authors further their discussion through a wealth of photographs and diagrams, timelines, and maps. Scribner, 1998, 431 p., color plates b&w photos /illus., hardcover, \$40.00.



Emergence: From Chaos to Order—John H. Holland. The father of genetic algorithms and "complexity guru" at the Santa Fe Institute tackles the conundrums of how musicians continue to create new melodies; how, with just a few simple rules, chess can seemingly be played an infinite number of ways; and how a minute seed grows into a giant redwood tree. By locating the patterns and emergent properties that mold chaos into order, one can garner a deeper understanding of the complexity of life, says Holland. He defines the mathematical models and the scientific study of these properties as they relate to game theory, neural networks, and mechanisms. Addison-Wesley, 1998, 258 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$25.00.



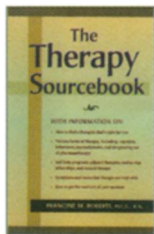
The Invention that Changed the World: How a Small Group of Radar Pioneers Won the Second World War and Launched a Technological Revolution—Robert Buderer. Regaling readers with tales of the Rad Lab—the research facility at MIT that gave birth to radar—Buderer tells about the flood of discoveries that followed the arrival of British researchers and their cavity magnetron in 1940. The cavity magnetron, a highly efficient source of microwave energy, was the key to making radar systems small enough to fit on boats. Buderer elaborates on a bevy of offshoots, ranging from solid-state television to magnetic resonance imaging. Originally published in hardcover in 1996. Touchstone, 1997, 575 p., b&w photos, paperback, \$16.00.



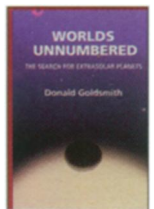
A Natural History of Parenting: A Naturalist Looks at Parenting in the Animal World and Ours—Susan Allport. Drawing on her observations of bat caves in Texas, the frosty domain of arctic wolves, and hundreds of other venues, science writer Allport provides a delightful examination of the parental habits of animals and people alike. Some ties between mother and child last a lifetime, while others end at birth. This menagerie of creatures also includes some with seemingly odd behavior—penguins that balance their eggs on their feet, for example. Allport spans it all as she strives to discover what is behind parental instinct. Originally published in hardcover in 1997. Three Rivers Press, 1998, 238 p., paperback, \$13.00.



Seasons in the Desert: A Naturalist's Notebook—Susan J. Tweit. The night-blooming cereus prevalent in the Sonoran Desert in the springtime opens this seasonally organized guide to 40 species of plants and animals that flourish in the deserts of North America. Each vignette is prefaced by the species' scientific name, size, color, range, and habitat; Tweit's personal accounts of each follow. She relays the intricacies and unique characteristics that allow each plant or animal to thrive in the rugged terrain. Chronicle Bks, 1998, 224 p., color illus., hardcover, \$19.95.



The Therapy Sourcebook—Francine M. Roberts. A clinical psychologist presents an overview of her field. Roberts outlines a variety of mental illnesses and the different types of therapy used in treating them, including behavioral, cognitive, psychodynamic, and biological, as well as methods for selecting a therapist. Once these decisions are made, she relays what to expect from treatment, how to set goals, and how psychoactive medications work. An extensive list of resources is presented in the back of the book. Lowell Hse, 1997, 336 p., hardcover, \$28.00.



Worlds Unnumbered: The Search for Extrasolar Planets—Donald Goldsmith. Recounting the events leading up to the discovery of the first extrasolar planet in 1995 and the subsequent spate of like findings, Goldsmith skillfully imparts both the technological aspects of these discoveries and their ramifications for theories of planetary origin and structure. For example, many of the newly discovered planets rival Jupiter in size yet are only a fraction as far from their suns as Mercury is from ours. This defies conventional wisdom, leaving astronomers to ponder how these planetary systems originated. Univ Sci Bks, 1997, 237 p., color plates, hardcover, \$35.95

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