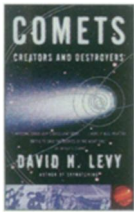
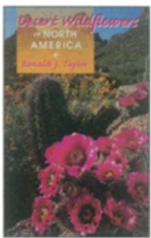


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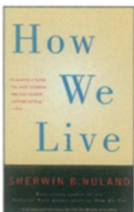
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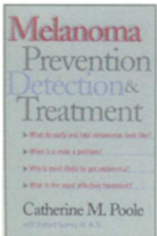
Comets: Creators and Destroyers—David Levy. Fodder for Hollywood screenwriters this summer, the idea of comet collisions has garnered wide public attention. Levy, amateur astronomer extraordinaire with 21 comet discoveries to his name, separates reality from the fiction. Describing how comets have impacted Earth in the past to provide our planet with life-spawning water and carbon, he imparts current scientific ideas about these icy, dusty balls. He adeptly reveals how comets may ignite life and spins a tale of the likely outcome of a modern-day collision with Earth. Touchstone, 1998, 256 p., b&w photos, paperback, \$12.00.



Desert Wildflowers of North America—Ronald J. Taylor. Buffalo gourd, Joshua trees, and Cleveland penstemon (no relation to the Ohio town) are among the 500 flowering plants unique to the Mojave, Sonoran, Painted, Chihuahuan, and Great Basin Deserts profiled here. Generalized chapters addressing the geology, wind, and seasons of these areas introduce accounts of individual species. Color photos of each specimen are accompanied by detailed descriptions of fruit, flowers, stem, and type. Mountain Pr, 1998, 349 p., color photos, paperback, \$24.00.



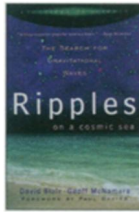
How We Live—Sherwin B. Nuland. The author of *How We Die* does an about-face in his latest endeavor, which explores the inner workings of the living body's systems. He does a fine job of illustrating how the digestive, circulatory, nervous, and other systems work in tandem to fight disease and repair themselves. Nuland's stories of patients whose systems have gone awry fill the text and help him describe the human will's role in overcoming and coping with bodily malfunctions. Originally published in hardcover under the title *The Wisdom of the Body* in 1997. Vin, 1998, 395 p. b&w illus., paperback, \$14.00.



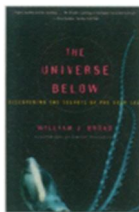
Melanoma: Prevention, Detection, and Treatment—Catherine M. Poole and DuPont Guerry IV. A melanoma survivor teams with an oncologist to provide a nuts-and-bolts view of skin cancer aimed especially at newly diagnosed patients. Chapters on early detection and who is at risk are enhanced by color pictures comparing normal and malignant spots. The middle section of the book addresses surgery and other forms of treatment, from the earliest stages to metastasis. Appendixes define terms and provide contacts for support. Yale U Pr, 1998, 140 p., color plates/b&w illus., paperback, \$14.00.



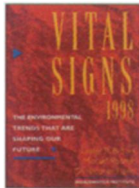
Owls: A Wildlife Handbook—Kim Long. A fact book, field guide, and folklore collection, this accessible guide portrays the many facets of the silent stalkers of the night. Long introduces all 19 species of owls that breed in North America, detailing their habitats, anatomy, size, range, call, reproductive habits, methods of hunting, and choice of diet. Johnson Bks, 1998, 181 p., b&w/color illus., paperback, \$15.95.



Ripples on a Cosmic Sea: The Search for Gravitational Waves—David Blair and Geoff McNamara. Emerging from the depths of the universe, gravitational waves—ripples in the fabric of space—are generated by colliding stars and black holes, exploding supernovas, and by the turmoil that lies in the hearts of quasars. With such stunning origins, it would seem that gravitational waves would carry great power, yet a human standing in the path of a billion kilowatt beam of gravitational energy would feel nothing. Due to the weakness of their influence, observation of these waves is virtually impossible. Einstein perceived the existence of gravitational waves in his theory of relativity but it wasn't for many years that any ideas for detecting them became feasible. Blair is an expert in theoretical and practical aspects of gravitational wave technology and imparts his wisdom here. Addison-Wesley, 1998, 184 p., illus., hardcover, \$22.00.



The Universe Below: Discovering the Secrets of the Deep Sea—William J. Broad. The end of the Cold War saw the release of top-secret technologies for deep-sea exploration. Broad swims through the history and current events of oceanography since that liberation. He explains the technology involved and shares the newest findings from the little-known environment of the deepest ocean, including lifeforms in "uninhabitable" places, extraordinary geologic wonders, and human-made debris such as the Titanic and abandoned nuclear submarines. Originally published in hardcover in 1997. Touchstone, 1998, 432 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$15.00.



Vital Signs 1998: The Environmental Trends That Are Shaping Our Future—Lester R. Brown, Michael Renner, and Christopher Flavin. Produced by the Worldwatch Institute, this annual tracks the key global indicators of social, economic, and environmental progress, or the lack thereof. This year's edition indicates that the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere reached its highest point in 160,000 years, China accounts for half of the world's pork production and consumption, and 1997 was the hottest year since record keeping began in 1866. Norton, 1998, 207 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$12.00.

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