

# An Enormous Intellectual Adventure

IN THIS groundbreaking new book, the American biologist Edward O. Wilson, considered to be one of the world's greatest living scientists, argues for the fundamental unity of all knowledge and the need to search for consilience—the proof that everything in our world is organized in terms of a small number of fundamental natural laws that comprise the principles underlying every branch of learning.

Wilson, the pioneer of sociobiology and biodiversity, once again breaks out of the conventions of current thinking. He shows how and why our explosive rise in intellectual mastery of the truths of our universe has its roots in the ancient Greek concept of an intrinsic orderliness that governs our cosmos and the human species—a vision that found its apogee in the Age of Enlightenment, then gradually was lost in the increasing fragmentation and specialization of knowledge in the last two centuries. Drawing on the physical sciences and biology, anthropology, psychology, religion, philosophy, and the arts, Wilson shows why the goals of the original Enlightenment are surging back to life, why they are reappearing on the very frontiers of science and humanistic scholarship, and how they are beginning to provide a profound, elegant, and exciting blueprint of our world. —from Knopf

Knopf, 1998, 332 pages, 6 1/2" x 9 1/2", hardcover, \$26.00

IN *NATURALIST*, Wilson describes for the first time both his growth as a scientist and the evolution of the science he has helped define. He traces the trajectory of his life—from a childhood spent exploring the Gulf Coast of Alabama and Florida to life as a tenured professor at Harvard, where he has achieved renown as both a teacher and a researcher.

Throughout *Naturalist*, we see Wilson's mind and energies constantly striving to establish central principles of the field of evolutionary biology—some of the most thought-provoking ideas of our time.

—from Island Press

Island Pr., 1994, 380 pages, 6" x 9", paperback, \$13.00

RICHLY ILLUSTRATED and delightfully written, *Journey to the Ants* combines autobiography and scientific lore to convey the excitement and pleasure the study of ants can offer. The authors interweave their personal adventures with the social lives of ants. Accompanying Bert Hölldobler and Edward O. Wilson, we peer into the colony to see how ants cooperate and make war, how they reproduce and bury their dead, how they use propaganda and surveillance, and how they exhibit a startlingly familiar ambivalence between allegiance and self-aggrandizement. Written in lay terms, this exotic tour of ants—from social parasites to army ants, nomadic hunters, and energetic builders of temperature-controlled skyscrapers—opens out increasingly into natural history, intimating the relevance of ant life to human existence. —from Belknap/Harvard

Belknap/Harvard, 1994, 228 pages, 8 1/4" x 9 1/2", hardcover, \$24.95

ANTS MAKE up from 10 to 15 percent of the animal biomass in most terrestrial environments, turn more soil than earthworms, and play leading roles in the ecology as predators and scavengers.

Hölldobler and Wilson review in exhaustive detail virtually all topics in the anatomy, physiology, social organization, ecology, and natural history of ants. Their book illustrates each of the 292 living genera of ants—there are approximately 8,800 known species—and provides detailed taxonomic keys to them, region by region around the world. They tell the story of the evolution of ants from their origins over 100 million years ago and explore every aspect of ant social life for the major types of ants, including leafcutters, army ants, weaver ants, and many others.

—from Belknap/Harvard

Belknap/Harvard, 1990, 732 pages  
10 1/4" x 12 1/4", hardcover, \$94.00

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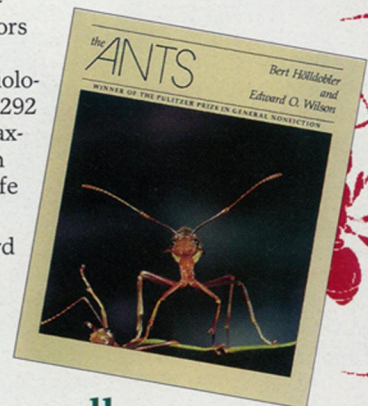
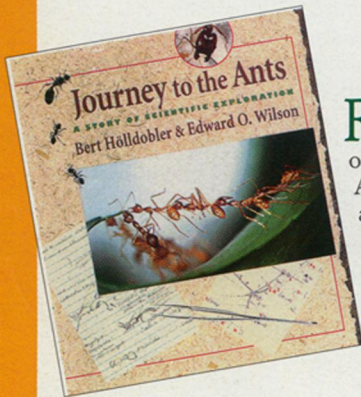
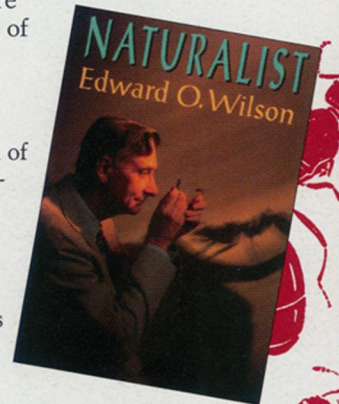
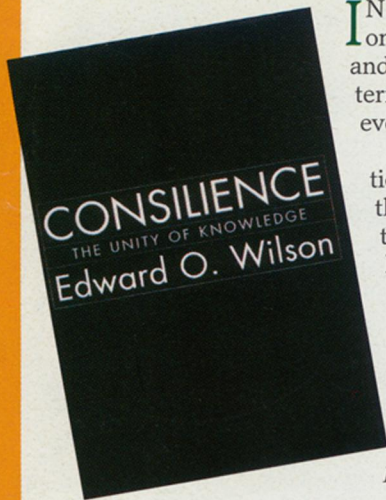
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