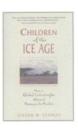
## SCIENCE NEVS BOOKS

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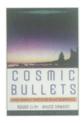
Breathe Right Now: A Comprehensive Guide to Understanding and Treating the Most Common Breathing Disorders—Laurence A. Smolley and Debra Fulghum Bruce. Be it allergies, emphysema, ashma, sinusitis or shortness of breath, millions of people in the U.S. suffer from breathing disorders.

Realizing that very often these disorders may be linked to other medical problems or behavior (some people with allergies may smoke, for example), Smolley and Bruce provide perspective on the physiology of the respiratory system and the factors that can trigger its malfunction. Analysis of each ailment is accompanied by a number of conventional as well as alternative methods for managing breathing problems. Norton, 1998, 288 p., hardcover, \$25.00.



Children of the Ice Age: How a Global Catastrophe Allowed Humans to Evolve—Steven M. Stanley. A prophet of the punctuational model of evolution—which holds that evolution occurs in bursts of activity rather than gradually and continually over time—ponders why the bigbrained genus Homo appeared

so quickly and its ancestor, *Australopithecus*, disappeared after thriving for nearly 1.5 million years. Stanley, a paleobiologist, contends that this came about because of the "catastrophic birth" spawned by random effects of the modern ice age in Africa. The ice age caused forested areas to shrink, bringing *Australopithecus* down from its home in the trees, freeing its hands to care for its young, and permitting its brain to grow larger. Originally published in hardcover in 1996. Freeman, 1998, 278 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$14.95.



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Cosmic Bullets: High Energy Particles in Astrophysics—Roger Clay and Bruce Dawson. Six years ago a spectacular event occurred 25 kilometers above Utah: a cosmic ray moving at a speed within a billion-trillionth of one percent of the speed of light struck the Earth's atmosphere. The properties of

cosmic rays such as these stem from relativity and astrophysics in extreme conditions, and study of them has expanded our overall knowledge of the universe. Spearheading a movement away from trying to duplicate cosmic ray phenomena with expensive particle accelerators, Clay and Dawson are involved in operating two of the largest cosmic ray observatories in the world. Their observations enhance this text delineating the history of these speedy particles and current theories about them. Addison-Wesley, 1998, 194 p., b&w illus/photos, hardcover, \$22.00.

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Frankenstein's Footsteps: Science, Genetics, and Popular Culture—Jon Turney. Arguing that Mary Shelley's Frankenstein is the governing myth of modern biology and that it frames society's ambivalence about biological science, Turney dissects this story as well as

other cultural icons that amplify his thesis. Turney contends that *Frankenstein* is a story "which expresses many of the deepest fears and desires about...the violation of the human body." Spanning the last two centuries, this work tracks the action and interaction of breakthroughs in genetics research, ranging from vivisection to in vitro fertilization, and their portrayal in fiction and the popular media. Yale U Press, 1998, 276 p., b&w plates, hardcover, \$30.00.



The Science Times Book of the Brain and The Science Times Book of Fossils and Evolution: The Best Science Reporting From the Acclaimed Weekly Section of The New York TIMES—Nicholas Wade, ed. Every Tuesday readers of THE New YORK TIMES can look forward to an entire section of the newspaper devoted to the latest advances in the sciences. These two books cull stories from the past 5 years, providing an overview of the state of each

field. Recently documented fossil finds in Ethiopia of *Australopithecus* and Neandertals in Europe shape current theories about the evolution of humans. The physiology, psychology, and neurology of our most coveted organ is dissected in articles about how we learn, emote, sense, remember, and dream. Both books, Lyons Pr, 1998, 238 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$25.00.



To Seek Out New Life: The Biology of Star Trek—Athena Andreadis. Another in a spate of new books geared to complement Lawrence Krauss' The Physics of Star Trek, this voyage through the television series and movies answers such questions as Can Klingons form

a stable society? Is the Vulcan suppression of emotion biologically viable? Harvard biologist Andreadis sorts the probable scenarios from the ludicrous by isolating particular physiological, psychological, and sociological developments found in the plots and characters. Crown, 1998, 273 p., hardcover, \$21.00.



Wind: How the Flow of Air Has Shaped Life, Myth, and the Land—Jan DeBlieu. Heavy morning dews. Gulls facing north. Biting flies on an offshore fishing boat. These are ancient methods for predicting winds and weather. Doppler radar and satellite images are now

more reliable foretellers, but what exactly are those instruments seeking to find? Using not only the terminology of modern physicists but also the poetic imagery of the Navajo, DeBlieu regales readers with the ways in which the wind shapes Earth's terrain and the psyche of humankind. Tornadoes, the influence of breezes on war and trade among early cultures, and the impact of wind-driven currents of the sea are just a sampling of the angles she uses to portray this natural phenomenon. HM, 1998, 294 p., hardcover, \$24.00.

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