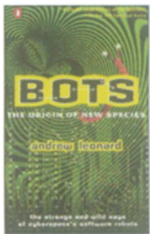
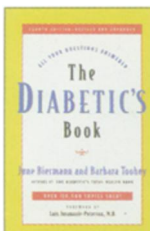


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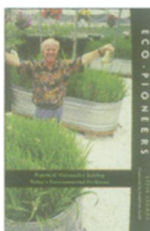
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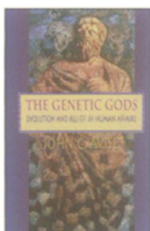
BOTS: The Origin of New Species—Andrew Leonard. **Bots**—short for robots—are autonomous software programs that perform human tasks. We are most familiar with the friendly ones that spell-check documents and provide sports scores on the Internet. Malevolent and ever-smarter bots, however, are being implemented for annoying and sometimes destructive tasks such as infiltrating databases. These spambots and virusbots are what concern Leonard. Here he relates the evolution of bots and his estimations of how they will continue to affect society. Originally published in hardcover in 1997. Penguin, 1998, 269 p., paperback, \$13.95.



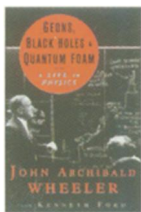
The Diabetic's Book: All Your Questions Answered—June Biermann and Barbara Toohey. This fourth edition is completely updated answering questions and concerns related to both Type 1 diabetes (typically beginning in childhood) and Type 2 (usually occurring in adults). First, the hallmarks of the disease are defined, then courses of treatment together with associated decisions and predicaments are dissected. Lifestyle changes are a primary focus as the American Diabetes Association nutrition guidelines are outlined along with a low-carbohydrate diet approach. Tarcher Putnam, 1998, 282 p., paperback, \$13.95.



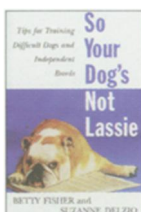
Eco-Pioneers: Practical Visionaries Solving Today's Environmental Problems—Steve Lerner. Pliny Fisk III of Austin, Texas, invented a construction material, stronger than cement, that's made from recycled ash. In Arizona, Sally Fox grows naturally-colored organic cotton that needs no toxic dyes. Profiles of these people and 23 others who are dealing with environmental problems by finding sustainable ways to log forests, treat sewage organically, and generate power comprise the volume. Originally published in hardcover in 1997. MIT Pr, 1998, 462 p., b&w illus. & photos, paperback, \$15.00.



The Genetic Gods: Evolution and Belief in Human Affairs—John C. Avise. In many cultures, people believe themselves to have been created in the image of a god. Avise contends that humans are, in fact, expressions of their genes, or "genetic gods." Our genes, he says, are responsible not only for how we got here and exist day to day, but also for the core of our being—our personalities and morals. It is our genetic make-up that allows for and formulates our religious belief systems, he argues. Avise does not eschew spirituality but seeks a more informed, less confrontational approach between science and the pulpit. HUP, 1998, 279 p., illus., hardcover, \$29.95.



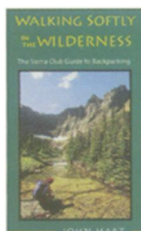
Geons, Black Holes, and Quantum Foam: A Life in Physics—John Archibald Wheeler with Kenneth Ford. The title of Wheeler's autobiography recalls elements of his pioneering work in physics, in terms he himself coined. His career, spanning nearly seven decades, coincides with many colossal accomplishments in the physical sciences. Wheeler taught Richard Feynman. He collaborated with Niels Bohr. He participated in the Manhattan Project. Albert Einstein was an intellectual sparring partner. Not one to think he has lived to see it all, Wheeler offers a fair amount of speculation and suggests a direction for the next generation of physicists. Norton, 1998, 380 p., b&w photos/illus., hardcover, \$27.95.



So Your Dog's Not Lassie: Tips for Training Difficult Dogs and Independent Breeds—Betty Fisher and Suzanne Delzio. In *The Intelligence of Dogs*, Stanley Coren ranks canines by intelligence. The breeds at the bottom of that pack—beagles, bulldogs, and Afghan hounds—are the focus here. While border collies wait for commands, beagles instinctively run on their own. Whether for hunting, herding, or fighting, dogs have been bred for such traits for hundreds of years. This basic truth, underscores training tips aimed at incorporating or undermining difficult traits. HarpC, 1998, 281 p., b&w photos/illus., paperback, \$15.00.



The Substance of Civilization: Materials and Human History From the Stone Age to the Age of Silicon—Stephen L. Sass. The materials that sustain and inspire us have guided humanity's progress, Sass maintains. As he clarifies why our materials behave as they do and how their characteristics have influenced society, he also clears up arcane questions such as why rubber differs from glass and metal (except when it is cold) and why glass shatters. Analyses of material failures, as in airplane crashes, are interspersed with details of how the earliest glass blowers mastered their craft. Arcade, 1998, 291 p., hardcover, \$24.95.



Walking Softly in the Wilderness: The Sierra Club Guide to Backpacking—John Hart. Thanks to its wide range of coverage, this third edition handbook is useful for both the novice and accomplished hiker. The focus is on ways and means of leaving the trail and campsite as you found them.

This message is imparted through extensive instruction on building shelters (including igloos), maintaining a fire, cooking, and providing for sanitation and clean water. Additionally, there is advice on reading maps, navigating off the trail, first aid, and foot care. Sierra Club Books, 1998, 478 p., illus., paperback, \$16.00.

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