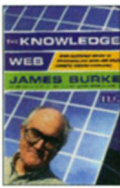


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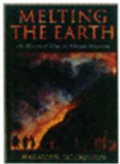
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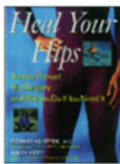
The Consumer's Guide to Effective Environmental Choices: Practical Advice from the Union of Concerned Scientists—Michael Brower and Warren Leon. Grocery stores present a perplexing array of choices: paper or plastic bags, disposable or cloth diapers, meat or tofu? Often, pangs of guilt accompany these decisions for eco-sensitive consumers. This guide eases stress by debunking myths and prioritizing concerns. Analysis of how everyday household activities affect the environment leads to advice about how individuals and communities can alleviate the burden. Three Rivers Pr, 1999, 292 p., paperback, \$15.00.



The Knowledge Web: From Electronic Agents to Stonehenge and Back—and Other Journeys through Knowledge—James Burke. In the same vein as his latest book, *The Pinball Effect*, *The Knowledge Web* links a seemingly random collection of ideas and inventions. Examples within Burke's web include the bizarre origins of margarine and its ties to plankton shells, receding stars, hot chocolate, and the first solo Atlantic flight. Here perfume links to the carburetor, and the gutta-percha tree produces latex useful for transatlantic cables and golf balls. In all, he weaves a compelling look at the history of innovation, especially over the past 300 years or so. S&S, 1999, 285 p., b&w photos/illus., hardcover, \$25.00.

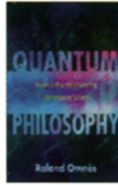


Melting the Earth: The History of Ideas on Volcanic Eruptions—Haraldur Sigurdsson. A native of actively volcanic Iceland, the author relates how various peoples throughout history explained the fiery eruptions of the Earth. For instance, the Greeks thought volcanoes resulted from the venting of subterranean winds. Early Christians believed volcanoes represented gateways to Hell. It wasn't until the Renaissance that this notion changed. Amid these stories, Sigurdsson elaborates our current understanding of volcanoes, according to thermodynamics, plate tectonics, and other scientific theories. OUP, 1999, 260 p., b&w photos/illus., hardcover, \$30.00.



Heal Your Hips: How to Prevent Hip Surgery—and What to Do If You Need It—Robert Klapper and Lynda Huey. An orthopedic surgeon and an athletic trainer combine their expertise to illustrate methods of maintaining healthy hips and rehabilitating repaired hips after surgery. Klapper and Huey emphasize preventive medicine and detail exercises to be performed on land and in the water. Concluding chapters report on surgical options, from arthroscopic repairs to complete hip replacement. Wiley, 1999, 190 pages, b&w photos/illus., paperback, \$18.95.

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Quantum Philosophy: Understanding and Interpreting Contemporary Science—Roland Omnès. Is the world ultimately intelligible? Do all events have a cause? Do all objects have a place? Since the ancient Greeks, these questions have troubled philosophers. Plato, Socrates, and their ancient counterparts forged a collective, common-sense view of the world that survived more than 2,000 years of analysis and challenge. It took the bravado of rebels Albert Einstein, Niels Bohr, Kurt Gödel, and their contemporaries to undermine the ancients and fracture traditional thought with a new world view founded on mathematical principles rather than imagination. However, Omnès seeks to make the new view more accessible. Relying on words rather than formulas, he shows how quantum mechanics places common sense on a firm scientific and philosophical footing. Princeton U Pr, 1999, 296 p., hardcover, \$29.95.



Stranger in the Nest: Do Parents Really Shape Their Child's Personality, Intelligence, or Character?—David B. Cohen. In response to the subtitle question, Cohen credits heredity and prenatal life over parenting skills. Believing that many traits are firmly rooted in genetics, Cohen argues that "inborn potentials can trump parental influence." A nurturing and caring environment is not irrelevant, however. Cohen likens parenting's role in social development to food's affect on physical development—both are essential but not determinant. This goes to explain how geniuses come to be reared by parents with a limited education and why some children of overachievers lack ambition, according to the author. Wiley, 1999, 312 p., hardcover, \$27.95.



Xeriscape Handbook: A How-To Guide to Natural, Resource-Wise Gardening—Gayle Weinstein. Having coped with recent droughts, gardeners beyond the arid U.S. southwest may be guided by these methods of water-wise gardening. At least half of the text probes fundamental issues such as understanding regional climates, soil improvement and protection, and irrigation techniques. Discussions of types of plants and their needs follow chapters on how to implement a xeriscape landscape from scratch or by retrofitting a design that reflects the natural surroundings. Fulcrum Pub, 1999, 142 p., color/b&w photos/illus., paperback, \$24.95.



Wind: How the Flow of Air Has Shaped Life, Myth, and the Land—Jan DeBlieu. Heavy morning dew. 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 forecasters, but what exactly do those instruments detect? DeBlieu regales readers with stories of the ways in which the wind shapes both Earth's terrain and the psyche of humankind. From the influence of breezes on war and trade among early cultures to the fury of tornadoes, DeBlieu vividly portrays this natural phenomenon. Originally published in hardcover in 1998. Mariner, 1999, 294 p., paperback, \$14.00.

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