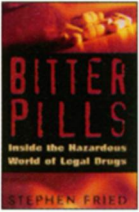


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**Bitter Pills: Inside the Hazardous World of Legal Drugs**—Stephen Fried. Motivated by his wife's neurological disturbance induced by a prescription antibiotic, Fried exhaustively investigated how drugs make their way from laboratory to medicine chest. He soon realized that more people die from *legal* drugs than from *illegal* drugs. Fried reveals the dynamics of the pharmaceutical industry and the Food and Drug Administration that controls it. He questions marketing directly to physicians and patients, neither of which is necessarily well versed in pharmacology. Originally published in hardcover in 1998. Bantam, 1999, 417 p., paperback, \$13.95.



**ENIAC: The Triumphs and Tragedies of the World's First Computer**—Scott McCartney. The brainchild of John Mauchly and Presper Eckert, ENIAC was the first digital, general-purpose, electronic computer. It occupied 1,800 square feet, weighed 30 tons, housed 18,000 vacuum tubes, and performed "sophomoric" calculations. Today, its power could be reduced to "a thimble of circuitry." McCartney's review of the ENIAC's mechanical predecessors leads to Mauchly and Eckert's unheralded triumph. These inventors harbored the nuts-and-bolts expertise, but they lacked the business savvy to take their place in history. McCartney sets the record straight on their behalf while defining the foundations of modern computing. Walker, 1999, b&w photos, hardcover, \$23.00.



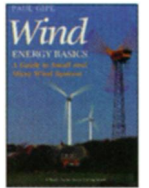
**The Fire Within the Eye: A Historical Essay on the Nature and Meaning of Light**—David Park. This survey spans history from Greek and neoplatonic philosophy to the modern laser and optical technology. Park shows how ideas about light have evolved and explains why people have been inclined to believe in luminous powers based on religion and astrology. Originally published in hardcover in 1997. Princeton U Pr, 1999, 377 p., color plates/b&w photos/illus., paperback, \$16.95.



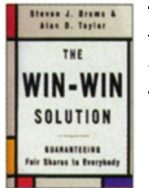
**Frogs: A Wildlife Handbook**—Kim Long. In Yiddish they are the *zhabes*. Ecologists look to them for the first signs of environmental degradation. Some people believe that if a frog sees your teeth, you'll have bad luck. These are among the facts that introduce 66 species of North American frogs and toads. Pictures of each specimen accompany details about its size, location, vocal call, and habitat. Other chapters discuss frogs' predators, the diseases that strike them, what they eat, the way they move, and their anatomy. Johnson Bks, 1999, 182 p., color illus., paperback, \$15.95.



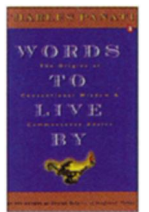
**Requiem for Nature**—John Terborgh. For the past 25 years, Terborgh has spent half his time doing research in Manu National Park in Peru, which yielded his unique perspective on the role of parks, societies, and concerned institutions in preserving nature. He has witnessed swelling encroachment of humans on tropical rainforests and divined the cultural and economic factors that allow for the pillaging of natural resources. By his estimates, the last tree in the last primary forest will fall in 2045. Modern society's drift toward materialism troubles the author, who believes that a kinship with natural things is a cornerstone to overall quality of life. In presenting his assessment, Terborgh reveals his ideas for preservation through ideological change. Island Pr, 1999, 234 p., hardcover, \$24.95.



**Wind Energy Basics: A Guide to Small and Micro Wind Systems**—Paul Gipe. Some people implement wind power as a means of moving off the commercial energy grid, while others use it as a supplemental source of energy. With an overview of the fundamental principles of wind energy and a survey of current technology, this guide addresses both concerns for homeowners. Methods for estimating performance of these technologies lead to consideration of feasible applications of wind power. A buying guide is followed by details for siting and installing a turbine. Chelsea Green, 1999, 122 p., b&w photos/illus., paperback, \$19.95.



**The Win-Win Solution: Guaranteeing Fair Shares to Everybody**—Steven J. Brams and Alan D. Taylor. As conflicts over taxes, estates, mutual holdings, contracts, and political boundaries escalate, the urgent need for a quick and fair method of distribution becomes apparent. The authors believe they have devised a practical process for dividing goods and resolving disputes equitably, efficiently, and envy-free. Brams, a political scientist, and Taylor, a mathematician, base their point-based procedure on three steps: assigning points to contested goods or issues, distributing items according to point assignments, and adjusting the outcome. Real-life examples portray the successful use of this plan. The more theoretical version of this book is titled *Fair Division*. Norton, 1999, 177 p., hardcover, \$24.95.



**Words to Live By: The Origins of Conventional Wisdom and Commonsense Advice**—Charles Panati. *The Bible*, Ben Franklin, and Aesop (a mystery in and of himself) represent the most prodigious sources of maxims. Panati digs to the source and stories behind a number of well-known phrases: Crime does not pay. Honesty is the best policy. The devil made me do it. In all, he provides a compelling lexicon of the world's most fundamental thoughts, which have sustained generations. Penguin, 1999, 416 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$15.95.

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