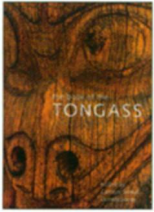


# SCIENCE NEWS BOOKS

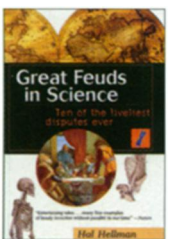
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**The Book of the Tongass**—Carolyn Servid and Donald Snow. In the southeast corner of Alaska stands the Tongass—the largest unbroken expanse of temperate rain forest on Earth. Tongass has generated billions of board feet of lumber used for crafting products ranging from the finest pianos to cellophane cigarette wrappers. Massive clear-cutting culminated in the early 1990s. Then, lumber mills began to close and local people started to confront life without the fruits of a lumber industry. The book contains essays by 14 Alaskans, each with a different viewpoint on ecotourism, forest sustainability, economic adjustments, and species depletion. In changing times, the book attempts to define the modern Tongass by its ecosystem and people. Milkweed, 1999, 297 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$18.95.

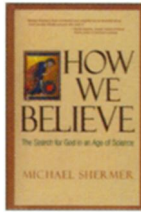


**The Geek Squad Guide to Solving Any Computer Glitch**—Robert Stephens with Dale Burg. For the benefit of novice users of both Macintosh and PC systems, this guide helps troubleshoot a keyboard lockup, lost data, a mouse in need of resuscitation, and a host of other common computer malfunctions. For each glitch, a list of jargon-free suggestions for addressing the problem helps readers either fix the problem or understand the situation in order to intelligently talk to a computer technician. Opening chapters all in the initial purchase of a machine and prevention of problems. Touchstone, 1999, 224 p., illus., paperback, \$15.00.



**Great Feuds in Science: Ten of the Liveliest Disputes Ever**—Hal Hellman. Wallis vs. Hobbes. Newton vs. Leibniz. Voltaire vs. Needham. No, these aren't bouts on a boxing card, but a sampling of some of the intellectual feuds waged over time. As Hellman reveals, not all of these verbal tangos were based on hard facts. Often, pride, jealousy, ambition, and politics have fueled the fires. For example, Hellman suggests that a personal slight might have triggered the conflict between Pope Urban VII and Galileo about whether Earth revolves around the sun. No matter how flimsy the foundations of these debates, it is Hellman's belief that they have provided necessary grist for advancing science as a whole. Originally published in hardcover in 1998. Wiley, 1999, 240 p., paperback, \$15.95.

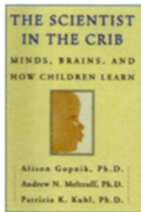
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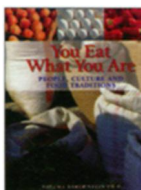
**How We Believe: The Search for God in an Age of Science**—Michael Shermer. As publisher of *SKEPTIC* magazine and director of the Skeptics Society, Shermer might be inclined to deride people who have faith in God. On the contrary, Shermer takes issue only with those who try to prove the existence of God or that one religion reigns supreme over others. Such assertions require scientific and rational analysis, which simply can't be applied to an issue of faith, he asserts. In this scientific age, more people than ever have faith. With this in mind, Shermer examines why people believe in God and how that belief coexists comfortably with science. Freeman, 2000, 302 p., b&w illus./photos, hardcover, \$24.95.



**The Pleasure of Finding Things Out: The Best Short Works of Richard Feynman**—Foreword by Richard Dyson. An assortment of talks, interviews, and essays written by the great physics popularizer reflect on Feynman's remarkable ability to comprehend and then interpret complicated concepts for people, as well as his fun-loving, outgoing personality. Feynman's words recount the making of the atomic bomb at Los Alamos, the cause of the explosion that destroyed the Space Shuttle Challenger, and even how he incorporated Jell-O into his experiments as a young Princeton student. Other chapters include his Nobel prize acceptance speech and a 1985 publication about the future of computer science. Perseus Bks, 1999, 270 p., hardcover, \$24.00.



**The Scientist in the Crib: Minds, Brains, and How Children Learn**—Alison Gopnik, Andrew N. Meltzoff, and Patricia K. Kuhl. Forget the nature vs. nurture debate. These authors assert that it is our nature to nurture, and they illustrate the ways we teach youngsters without necessarily intending to do so. Gopnik, Meltzoff, and Kuhl derive their expertise from work in fields including cognitive science, child psychology, and speech development. They present a readable and informative report on how children process information and use it to understand the world around them. The authors argue that infants inherently employ the Socratic method to discover aspects of life of which they have no firsthand experience. Loaded with case studies and research, the book demystifies young minds. Morrow, 1999, 279 p., hardcover, \$24.00.



**You Eat What You Are: People, Culture, and Food Traditions**—Thelma Barer-Stein. In the Philippines, rice and mangoes or bananas are served with each meal. The preference for rice extends to Iran, but yogurt replaces mangoes as a side dish. While pork is essentially banned in Iran, the Irish are known to use bacon fat as a spread on breads and regard tea as a meal's key component. Such interesting facts lace chapters addressing the eating habits of more than 170 cultural groups around the world. Each section provides an overview of the background of the people and their common tastes and cooking methods. Firefly, 1999, 544 p., illus., hardcover, \$35.00.

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