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California Wild Lands: A Guide to the Nature Conservancy Preserves — Dwight Holing. For each of the 23 Nature Conservancy Preserves in California this book provides a background of the tracts and a thorough description of each tract, detailing its topography and cultural and natural history. A checklist includes such information as telephone numbers, seasonal highlights, weather, on-site facilities, nearest off-site facilities, equipment to take along and directions for how to reach the tract. Chronicle Bks, 1988, 211 p., illus., paper, \$9.95.

Chambers Science and Technology Dictionary — Peter M.B. Walker, General Editor. The 45,000 entries, covering 47 fields of activity, are intended for both professionals and general readers. Each definition is classified according to field of activity. Cambridge U Pr, 1988, 1008 p., \$39.50.

Chambers World Gazetteer: An A-Z of Geographical Information — David Munro, Ed. A geographical dictionary of world places from Aachen, West Germany, to the Dutch city of Zwolle. Supplies information on cities, regions, countries, physical features and also national parks and international economic and cultural regions. A color atlas of 120 pages is included. Cambridge U Pr, 1988, 853 p., \$34.50.

The Dark Side of the Universe: A Scientist Explores the Mysteries of the Cosmos — James Trefil. In language intended for the general reader and with many simple diagrams, Trefil explores the origin, structure and fate of the universe. Scientists now think the entire luminous nighttime sky represents only a small part of the mass of the universe, and that the invisible or dark matter makes up at least 90 percent of the universe. Trefil says, "With the recognition of dark matter, we seem to have the final piece that we needed to put together the jigsaw puzzle and complete the picture of the way the universe came to be the way it is." Scribner, 1988, 197 p., illus., \$17.95.

Natural Obsessions: The Search for the Oncogene — Natalie Angier, foreword by Lewis Thomas. Describes in interesting detail how some of the bright young scientists are exploring molecular biology, probing for the nature of the human cell and for the oncogenes that control cancer. Deals not merely with the end product of research but also with the way research is done today. HM, 1988, 394 p., illus., \$19.95.

Plantwatching: How Plants Remember, Tell Time, Form Partnerships and More — Malcolm Wilkins. This beautifully illustrated book introduces the reader to the inner workings of the plant world. Explores, in addition, some surprising areas of botany such as the ways in which plants sense time, light and temperature; digest insects; generate forces powerful enough to break through pavement; and form both symbiotic and parasitic relationships. Facts on File, 1988, 207 p., color illus., \$29.95.

Rainbows, Curve Balls: And Other Wonders of the Natural World Explained — Ira Flatow. A potpourri of scientific explanations addressing such topics as the acoustics of concert halls, why men grow bald, the science of various sports, kitchen science and thunderstorms. Morrow, 1988, 240 p., illus., \$15.95.

Thunderstones and Shooting Stars: The Meaning of Meteorites — Robert T. Dodd. Meteorites, the oldest rocks still extant, record the first steps in the history of the solar system; many were formed before Earth was created. They carry to Earth a record of the space environment. Huge meteorites have struck Earth in the past, and there is evidence that some of these bodies affected the evolution of life on the planet. This book, by a scientist who has studied meteorites for the last 20 years, summarizes what is known and thought about these ancient objects from space. Originally published in hardback in 1986. Harvard U Pr, 1988, 196 p., illus., paper, \$11.95.

Time's Arrow, Time's Cycle: Myth and Metaphor in the Discovery of Geological Time — Stephen Jay Gould. To elucidate the role of metaphor in the formulation and testing of scientific theories, Gould traces the discovery of deep time, the vastness of Earth's history, through three seminal documents in geology beginning with Burnet's 1690 *Sacred Theory of the Earth*. The directionality of time and time's cycles are followed through each of the geological documents to show how their influence brought on the discovery of geological time. Originally published in hardback in 1987. Harvard U Pr, 1988, 222 p., illus., paper, \$8.95.

THE DREAMS OF REASON

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AND THE RISE

OF THE SCIENCES

OF COMPLEXITY

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— from the publisher

Simon and Schuster, 1988, 352 pages, 6½" x 9½", hardcover, \$18.95 ISBN 0-671-62708-2

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