

# Books

**Books** is an editorial service for readers' information. To order any book listed or any U.S. book in print, please remit retail price, plus \$2.00 postage and handling charge for each book, to **Science News Books**, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. To place Visa or MasterCard orders, call 1-800-544-4565. All books sent postpaid. Domestic orders only. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

**The Backpacker's Handbook**—Hugh McManus. Extremely broad in scope and profusely illustrated, this handbook outlines the basic equipment and procedures necessary for safe and effective hiking, including trip planning, fitness preparation, moving on the trail, camping, and dealing with emergencies. Many procedures are illustrated step-by-step. Color photographs make this book unusually clear and straightforward, especially for the novice. Dorling Kindersley, 1995, 160 p., color photos, paperback, \$14.95.

**The City and Town Gardener: A Handbook for Planting Small Spaces and Containers**—Linda Yang. Beginning with a discussion of how to assess the growing conditions of an available planting space, the author takes the reader through each step of planning, planting, and maintaining an urban garden. In a lighthearted tone, she addresses such questions as which plants are compatible with various soils and exposure conditions, where to get those plants, and how to deal with problems peculiar to urban gardening, from leaks in the roof to blasts of hot air from exhaust fans. Originally published in hardcover in 1990 and titled *The City Gardener's Handbook*. Random, 1995, 316 p., color/b&w photos and illus., paperback, \$18.00.

**Galen's Prophecy: Temperament in Human Nature**—Jerome Kagan. After studying young children for more than 15 years, Kagan returns to a theory proposed by the Greek philosopher Galen, namely, that inhibited and uninhibited children inherit different neurochemistries that affect their threshold of reactivity to novelty. Kagan recounts the history of the study of temperament from Galen to Pavlov to his own research methods and findings. Originally published in hardcover in 1994. Basic, 1995, 376 p., paperback, \$14.00.

**Math for Your First and Second Grader**—Steve Slavin. Realizing a void in basic mathematical skills amongst students, Slavin surveyed the math curricula in a number of elementary schools around the country and developed these math courses for first and second graders. As a supplement to the regular curriculum or as a remedial program, this guide comprises sequential lessons meant to be done over the course of several months. Wiley, 1995, 274 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$12.95.

**The Myth of Scientific Literacy**—Morris H. Shamos. A former president of the National Science Teachers Association argues the merits of intensive science education for U.S. students. Shamos notes that while science is now on a par with the 3Rs in terms of time devoted to it in the classroom, the United States has failed to produce a scientifically literate populace. He lays the groundwork for a system he believes is more useful, based on why we teach science, what science we should be teaching to what students (considering their goals), and the social and economic implications of science. Rutgers U Pr, 1995, 261 p., hardcover, \$27.95.

**Out of the Blue: Depression and Human Nature**—David B. Cohen. This overview of the causes and effects of depression focuses on people with bipolar disease, who fluctuate between very low periods and periods of euphoria, as well as on "normal" depression, which most people experience at some time. Cohen favors the belief that heritable qualities have a greater influence than environmental surroundings on depressed patients, and he illustrates this through various case studies. He explores other, connected areas, such as seasonal affective disorder, sleep patterns, and the influence of depression on creativity. Originally published in hardcover in 1994. Norton, 1995, 368 p., paperback, \$13.95.

**The Pill: A Biography of the Drug that Changed the World**—Bernard Asbell. This historical treatise on the birth control pill documents the discovery of the contraceptive and the effects it had on societies around the world, especially in the United States, where it inspired the sexual revolution. Asbell profiles the so-called mothers and fathers of the Pill, including the reclusive Russell Marker, who first synthesized human progestrone. The author also touches on the Vatican's response and on new contraceptive technologies on the horizon. Random, 1995, 411 p., b&w plates, hardcover, \$25.00.

*To order by Visa or MasterCard, call  
1-800-544-4565  
In D.C. area: 202-331-9653*

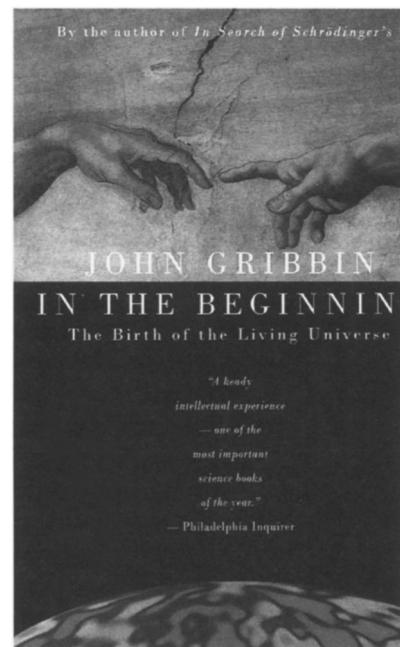
## COBE results are: "The discovery of the century, if not of all time." — Stephen Hawking

On April 23, 1992, NASA's \$150 million COBE (Cosmic Background Explorer) satellite made one of the most monumental scientific breakthroughs of our century: the discovery of the long-sought "ripples in the fabric of space-time." The first book to explore and explain the significance of this dramatic discovery, John Gribbin's *In the Beginning* uses the results to synthesize a startlingly new understanding of the Universe. His portrait gives us a glimpse of the Universe's first birth pangs, the nature of life and the way evolution works, the geography of the Universe and all it contains, and the way in which the "black hole bounce" enables the Universe to reproduce itself. Along the way we learn why the laws of physics should be as they are and whether

human beings have a special place in the living Universe.

Drawing on the latest measurements, John Gribbin also goes beyond the Big Bang to address the questions of how and why the Universe came into being, and what its future evolution holds in store. He contends that the Universe has evolved through Darwinian selection among a multitude of universes competing for existence in space-time.

— from Little, Brown & Company



Science News Books      InBeginning  
1719 N Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copy(ies) of *In the Beginning*. I include a check payable to Science News Books for \$12.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling (total \$14.95) for each copy. Domestic orders only.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(used only for problems with order)      RB2322

**Order by phone for faster service! 1-800-544-4565  
(Visa or MasterCard Only) In D.C. area: 202-331-9653**

*Little, Brown & Company, 1995, 274 pages, 5 1/2" x 8 1/4", paperback, \$12.95*