

Science/Philosophy of Science

The Nature of Knowledge, by Henry Plotkin. Penguin Books 1994, 269 pp., Can.\$35.99 h/b, ISBN 0-713-99104-6. Subtitled 'Concerning Adaptations, Instinct and the Evolution of Consciousness', this book makes links between our capacity for knowledge and the struggle for survival. Plotkin explores 'Universal Darwinism' in relation to the functioning of the immune system and the development of language to develop an evolutionary epistemology.

Poetry of the Universe, by Robert Osserman. Weidenfeld & Nicolson 1995, 210 pp, £18.99 h/b, ISBN 0-297-81516-4. Provides a 'map' of the cosmos according to the latest cosmographical discoveries, showing how mathematics has been the forerunner of scientific advances through the ages.

River out of Eden, by Richard Dawkins. Weidenfeld & Nicolson 1995, 172 pp, £ 9.99 h/b, ISBN 0-297-81540-7. According to this book, the 'river' of DNA flowing through time is the most sophisticated information system imaginable. Argues for a neo-Darwinist view of the mechanisms of evolution.

Naturalist, by Edward O. Wilson. Viking 1995, 380 pp, £ 20.00 p/b, ISBN 0-713-99141-0. Wilson's acclaimed scientific autobiography which gives an insider's view of the development of sociobiology as a discipline.

To be a Scientist, by Donald Braben. Oxford University Press 1994, 166 pp, £ 9.99 p/b, ISBN 0-19-852290-8. An engaging and semi-autobiographical account of science and the vagaries of scientific careers by the former head of Venture Research at BP.

Health/Medicine

The Book of Ayurveda, by Judith H. Morrison. Gaia Books 1995, 191 pp, £10.99 p/b, ISBN 1-85675-007-8. A beautifully produced and comprehensive guidebook explaining the theory and practice of Ayurveda.

How to survive Medical Treatment, by Dr. Stephen Fulder (SMN). C. W. Daniel Company 1994, 254 pp, £6.95 p/b, ISBN 0 85207 279 1. A new edition of this book which explains how to avoid the risks and side-effects of conventional medicine.

Grace and Grit, by Ken Wilber. Gill & Macmillan 1994, 418 pp, no price given p/b, ISBN 0-7171-2244-1. A paper edition of this truly remarkable book, which I reviewed in the December 1991 issue.

Embodiment and Experience, edited by Thomas J. Csordas. Cambridge University Press 1994, 294 pp, £35.00 h/b, £13.95 p/b, ISBN 0-521-45890-0. A collection of phenomenological essays on the various uses of the word 'body', the body in healing, the body as symbol and metaphor, and the meaning of the body as subject and object in pain. Draws on a variety of cultures.

The Complete Book of Men's Health, by Dr. Sarah Brewer. Harper Collins 1995, 384 pp, £9.99 p/b, ISBN 0-7225-3019-6. Claims to be the first comprehensive book on men's health, with sections on sexual health, illness and disease, and nutrition and lifestyle.

Jesus the Healer, by Stevan L. Davies. SCM Press 1995, 216 pp, £12.95 p/b, ISBN 0-334-02605-9. A scholarly and unusual book which sees Jesus as primarily a spirit-possessed healer and an exorcist of demon-possessed people.

Preventing Breast Cancer, by Dr. Cathy Read. Harper Collins 1995, 250 pp, £7.99 p/b, ISBN 0-04-440909-5. Subtitled 'The Politics of an Epidemic', this impassioned book argues that the real causes of the disease lie in our diet, environment and social structures, and that political factors have diverted attention away from preventive strategies.

When a Baby Dies, by Nancy Kohner & Alix Henley. Harper Collins 1995 (1991), 255 pp, £8.99, ISBN 0-04-440934-6. A book about the experience of late miscarriage, stillbirth and neonatal death, which uses first hand accounts and offers helpful advice.

The Mental Health Handbook, by Tony Drew & Madeleine King. Piatkus 1995, 255 pp, £9.99 p/b, ISBN 0-7499-1478-5. A handbook for ordinary people giving a guide to treatments, care and resources.

Accepting Your Power To Heal, by Dolores Krieger, Ph.D. Bear Publishing Company 1993, 199 pp, \$10.95, ISBN 1-879181-04-5. A highly acclaimed handbook by the pioneer of Therapeutic Touch. Contains many exercises with reflective commentaries.

Data Presentation & Visual Literacy in Medicine & Science, by Doig Simmonds and Linda Reynolds. Butterworth Heinemann Ltd., 1994, 192 pp, no price given, p/b, ISBN 0-7506-0982-6. An invaluable book for anyone using computer technology in the design and production of scientific information. Includes advice on choosing software, layout and typography, diagrams, charts, OHP and slide materials, and preparing text for publication.

The Incompetent Doctor, by Prof. Marilyn Rosenthal. Open University Press 1995, 167 pp, £12.99 p/b, £37.50 h/b, ISBN 0-335-19109-6. A sociological study of the neglected area of professional self-regulation which explores the range of informal and quasi-formal mechanisms used to cope with the 'incompetent' doctor.

Philosophy/Religion

The Oxford Dictionary of Philosophy, by Simon Blackburn. Oxford University Press 1994, 408 pp, £19.99 h/b, ISBN 0-19-211694-0. A comprehensive dictionary of 2,500 entries covering both Eastern and Western philosophical themes and 500 biographies. Contains good definitions of technical terms from philosophy and related disciplines. A valuable reference work.

Wittgenstein, by Henry Le Roy Finch. Element Books 1995, 202 pp, £4.99 p/b, ISBN 1-85230-625-4. An accessible and clear introduction to Wittgenstein in the Spirit of Philosophy series by a great authority on the subject.

The Dilemma of Narcissus, by Louis Lavelle. Larson Publications 1993 (1973), 230 pp, \$15.95, ISBN 0-943914-62-0. A reprint of this subtle and profound exploration of the recovery of one's own soul through reflection and self-knowledge.

The Theosophical Enlightenment, by Joscelyn Godwin. SUNY Press 1994, 448 pp, \$19.95 p/b, ISBN 0-7914-2152-X. A major study in intellectual history which places Theosophy within a context originating in the late 18th century and the many esoteric developments of the 19th.

Muhammad Man and Prophet, by M. A. Salahi. Element Books 1995, 752 pp, £24.99 h/b, ISBN 1-85230-703-X. A comprehensive biography by a British journalist of Arabic origin. By presenting the Prophet to a Western audience from an Islamic perspective, the author

hopes that mutual antagonisms and misunderstandings can be overcome, although he admits that relations have never in fact been easy.

Europe: Was it Ever Really Christian?, by Anton Wessels. SCM Press 1994, 242 pp, £12.95 p/b, ISBN 0-334-02569-9. A fascinating exploration of the cultural backgrounds in Europe during the rise of Christianity - Graeco-Roman, Celtic

and Germanic - which sheds some light on the issue of 'inculturation' in African and South American cultures today.

I Ching edited by Rudolf Ritsema and Stephen Karcher. Element Books, 1995, 816 pp., £14.99 p/b. ISBN 1-85230-669-6. The paperback version of the hardback which I reviewed enthusiastically in No. 56.

The Ultimate Medicine, by Sri Nisargadatta Maharaj. Blue Dove Press 1994, 214 pp, \$11.95 p/b, ISBN 1-884997-09-0. Conversations from the last year of this great modern sage's life. The style is direct and provocative, while the content concerns many of the essentials of spiritual life. One quotation conveys the flavour: 'All paths lead to unreality. Paths are creations within the scope of knowledge' - a remark that might have been attributed to Krishnamurti.

Learning How to Learn, by Idries Shah. Penguin 1993, 302 pp, £6.99 p/b, ISBN 0-14-019250-6. Subtitled 'psychology and spirituality in the Sufi way, this book draws not only on conversations with Idries Shah, but also on many classic Sufi tales which both illuminate and entertain.

The New Living Qabalah, by Will Parfitt. Element 1995, 255 pp, £9.99 p/b, ISBN 1-85230-682-3. Revised and updated edition of this standard guidebook to the Qabalah.

Reimagination of the World, by David Spangler and William Irwin Thompson. Bear & Company 1991, 218 pp, \$12.95 p/b, ISBN 0-939680-92-0. Stimulating conversations from seminars by the authors which cover all aspects of the cultural currents within the New Age of the 70s and 80s.

Mysticism in the World's Religions, by Geoffrey Parrinder. Oneworld 1995 (1976), 210 pp, £7.95, ISBN 1-85168-101-9. A reprint of this authoritative study by one of the best known authors on comparative religion. Explores monistic as well as theistic mysticism as well as modern manifestations of the search for the mystical through exotic experiences.

Fifty Key Contemporary Thinkers, by John Lechte. Routledge 1994, 251 pp, £8.99 p/b, ISBN 0-415-07408-8. An extremely useful introductory survey to famous as well as more obscure figures from structuralism through post-structuralism, modernity, semiotics, post-Marxism to post-modernity. Contains bibliographies of major works and suggestions for further reading. Entries include Nietzsche, Kafka, Joyce, Habermas, Merleau-Ponty, Foucault, Arendt and Lyotard.

The Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Arthurian Legends, by Ronan Coghlan. Element 1993, 256 pp, £12.99, ISBN 1-85230-647-5. A scholarly and readable sourcebook which is informative and beautifully produced.

Fire in the Head, by Tom Cowan. Harper Collins 1993, 222 pp, £9.99, ISBN 0-06-250174-7. An exploration of the Celtic tradition of shamanism drawing on many folklore sources.

In Search of the Holy Grail and the Precious Blood, by Ean and Deike Begg. Thorsons 1995, 236 pp, £7.99, ISBN 1-85538-293-8. A guide to the major Grail sites in Britain and Continental Europe. A mine of information to enrich the pilgrimage of those visiting these ancient places.

Journeys Through Time, by Soozie Holbeche. Piatkus 1995, 200 pp, £8.99, ISBN 0-7499-1466-1. A therapist's account of her own experiences with reincarnation, as well as those of her clients.

A Message of Love, by Ruth White with Gildas. Piatkus 1994, 135 pp, £8.99 p/b., ISBN 0-7499-1356-8. A channelled commentary on the present and future of humanity, which leaves many questions open and encourages individual responsibility in a process of co-creation.

The River of Life, by Ruth White. Piatkus 1995, 152 pp, £7.99 p/b, ISBN 0-7499-1502-1. A book for self-exploration and development with many guided visualisation exercises for our age of self-initiation. Gildas' perspective reminds us not to be too anthropomorphic and to see our journey as a return to the Source.

Through Time into Healing, by Dr. Brian Weiss. Piatkus 1995, 202 pp, £8.99 p/b, ISBN 0-7499-1477-7. Psychiatrist Brian Weiss' follow-up book describing many remarkable case histories in which clients have been healed through his technique of hypnotic regression.

Meditations with Meister Eckhart, by Matthew Fox. Bear & Company 1993, 131 pp, \$7.95 p/b, ISBN 0-939680-04-1. A simplified guide to Eckhart's teaching in a form which can be used for daily meditation practice.

Psychology

Parting Visions, by Dr. Melvin Morse. Piatkus 1994, 202 pp, £8.99 p/b, ISBN 0-7499-1495-5. Paperback version of the book reviewed in the last issue.

True Hallucinations, by Terence McKenna. Rider 1993, 237 pp, £14.99 h/b, ISBN 0-7126-6108-5. The amazing tale of ethnobiologist McKenna's trip to the Amazon basin in the early 1970s in search of the mythical shamanistic hallucinogen of the Witoto. The hypothesis emerging from the racy tale is that psilocybin, the active ingredient in the *Stropharia cubensis* mushroom is the missing link in the development of human consciousness and language.

Cosmic Consciousness Revisited, by Robert M. May. Element 1993, 356 pp, £12.95 p/b, ISBN 1-85230-280-1. Starting with a biography and review of the pioneering work of Richard M. Bucke (author of *Cosmic Consciousness*), the author traces the history of the emerging spiritual psychology, passing through its dark age of behaviourism to modern accounts and theories. Good on Jung, Gurdjieff and Maslow, but surprisingly little on Assagioli, Grof, Tart and Wilber.

Approaches to Psychology, by William E. Glassman. Open University Press 1995 second edition, 444 pp, £14.99 p/b, ISBN 0-335-19259-9. A textbook which examines five major perspectives within psychology: biological, behaviourist, cognitive, psychodynamic and humanistic. It is good to see Maslow, Rogers and Frankl incorporated, but there is still a long way to go before mainstream psychology becomes the discipline of the soul, as its name suggests.

The Dream Book, by Betty Bethards. Element 1995, 192 pp, £8.99 p/b, ISBN 1-85230-623-8. A revised edition which contains over 1,650 interpretations of dream images.

Ecology/Economics

Inventing the Future, by David Suzuki. Adamantine Press 1992, 247 pp, £14.95 p/b, ISBN 0-7449-0047-6. Biologist and activist Suzuki argues that we must re-invent a future free of our obsession with consumption and profit, restructuring our world view to change our attitude towards the natural world and the spiritual value we place on other organisms. Tackles many thorny issues such as genetic engineering, science and ethics, and the origins of policy making.

Crucial Questions About the Future, by Allen Tough. Adamantine Press 1995, 141 pp, £13.50, ISBN 0-7449-0083-2. As the author suggests, this is a book outlining a way of thinking about the future. Pragmatic and practical, Tough outlines the priorities for a satisfactory future and ways in which individuals can contribute. Ends with a useful sample pledge embodying a commitment to inner work and outer action.

The Politics of Nature, edited by Andrew Dobson and Paul Lucardie. Routledge 1993, 240 pp, £12.99 p/b, ISBN 0-415-12471-9. An scholarly interdisciplinary book of essays exploring green political theory in relation to the central problems of justice and democracy, individual rights and freedom, human nature and gender.

True to this Earth, by Alan Race & Roger Williamson. Oneworld 1995, 204 pp, £9.95 p/b, ISBN 1-85168-099-3. Subtitled global challenges and transforming faith, these essays cover ecology, politics, economics, peace, world views, science and philosophy. The interesting feature of the book is that the 'faith' essays in the second half respond directly to the global analyses of the first.

Ecology & Liberation, by Leonardo Boff. Fowler Wright Books 1995, 187 pp, £9.99 p/b, ISBN 0-88344-978-1. A radical formulation of an integrated liberation theology in which interrelatedness is the key theme. Relates ecology to global consciousness and mysticism and lays the foundation of a new social order.

Globalization, by Malcolm Waters. Routledge 1995, 185 pp, no price given p/b, ISBN 0-415-10576-5. Considers current theories of globalization and provides an authoritative overview of the process in economics, politics and culture.

The Economic Implications of Climate Change in Britain, edited by Martin Parry and Rachel Duncan. Earthscan 1995, 133 pp, £14.95 p/b, ISBN 1-85383-240-5. Arising out of a conference held at Green College, Oxford, this book examines the background to climate change and looks specifically at the effects of sea level rise, then implications for water supply, agriculture, energy, insurance and finance, and the question of Greenhouse policies.

God's Earth, by Paul Collins. Gill & Macmillan 1995, 280 pp, £9.99 p/b, ISBN 0-7171-2346-4. Subtitled 'Religion as if matter really mattered', this book explores the religious and philosophical roots of the environmental crisis, concentrating on the attitudes of Christianity to the world, matter and the body, then formulates a constructive way forward.

General

The World Wide Web, by Mark Handley and Jon Crowcroft. University College London 1995, 198 pp, no price given, p/b, ISBN 1-85728-435-6. An accessible and practical introduction to the WWW - its origins, structure, how to get started, servers, problems and prospects.

Realizing the Information Future: The Internet and Beyond. Produced by the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board. National Academy Press, 1994, 310 pp., £20.95 p/b. ISBN 0-309-05044-8.

Statistics Explained, by Perry R. Hinton. Routledge 1995, 322 pp, £12.99 p/b, ISBN 0-415-10286-3. A textbook which introduces statistical concepts, shows one when to be sceptical about them and gives an account of major tests used in psychology and the social sciences.

Fritjof Capra in Conversation with Michael Toms, edited by Hal Zina Bennett. Aslan Publishing 1994, 86 pp, £6.95 p/b, ISBN 0-944031-40-4. An informal discussion which provides a good general overview of Fritjof's ideas and new trends in his thinking.

Arktos - The Polar Myth, by Joscelyn Godwin. Thames and Hudson 1993, 260 pp, £10.95 p/b, ISBN 0-500-27713-3. A pioneering and cross-disciplinary book on the archetype of the poles, covering ideas of the golden age, ancient races, hidden lands and the idea of pole-shift - both past and future. The author remains level-headed throughout what he calls a hair-raising voyage and argues that the perennial fascination with such ideas is part of a 'polar tradition' of hidden wisdom.

Phosphenism, by Dr. Francis Lefebure. Psychotechnic Publications 1990, 247 pp, no price given p/b, ISBN 1-870046. Translated by Member Keith Wakelam, this book introduces a new art of visualisation for the development of memory and intelligence. This book sold 50,000 copies in its French edition.

Ideology, by Devid McLellan. Open University Press second edition 1995, 111 pp, £8.99 p/b, £30.00 h/b, ISBN 0-335-19466-4. Examines the origins of the concept, its use in Marxist and non-Marxist traditions and assesses its use in the recent 'End of History' debate.

The Official Sexually Correct Dictionary and Dating Guide, by Henry Beard and Christopher Cerf. Villard Books 1995, 238 pp, \$10.00 p/b, ISBN 0-679-75641-8. An irreverent romp through the politically correct landscape of the USA.

Keepers of the Garden, by Dolores Cannon. Gateway Books 1995, 287 pp, £6.95 p/b, ISBN 1-85860-015-4. An unusual book which claims through regression experiences that extra-terrestrials are responsible for human evolution and regard the earth as their garden.

Working Well at Home, by Christine Ingham. Harper Collins 1995, 197 pp, £6.99 p/b, ISBN 0-7225-3035-8. Full of practical advice about managing the problems arising from working at home.

Surviving the Media, by Diana Mather. Harper Collins 1995, 179 pp, £7.99 p/b, ISBN 0-7225-3010-2. An excellent introductory guide to the press, radio and TV, with tips on how to get body, mind and mouth into gear for the occasion.

Advent Calendar for the Salvation of the Planet Earth, by Linda Joslin. Gateway Books 1995, 176 pp, £5.95 p/b, ISBN 1-85860-033-2. A channelled apocalyptic book which paints a picture of the cataclysmic changes required to cleanse and rebalance the earth's 'energy systems' manifested through the weather. Offers suggestions about how individuals and

groups can move towards a new state of consciousness. Should perhaps be read as much metaphorically as literally.

Moments of Truth, by Anna Lee-Wood. Wessex Aquarian Publications 1995, 66 pp, £5.50, ISBN 09516963 6X. Available from Peter Glanville, Whitehouse View, 8 Hardy Road, Bridport, Dorset DT6 3AZ. A remarkable little book of telepathic communications received from the 'dead' in different states of consciousness - limbo, earthbound and spheres of light. Contains the arresting story of a deceased bishop communicating his regret at the way the author and her husband were treated by him, and some inspiring messages from Dorothy Kerin, founder of the Burrswood Home of Healing.

The Cosmic Energy Disc, channelled by Joan Isaacs. Lowe Ltd 1995, 108 pp, £12.50, no ISBN given. A channelled book of inspiring messages with accompanying colour disks which claim to be connected to cosmic frequencies. The main message is that we should amplify our efforts to send out the energy of love and light and that we should truly realise our own spiritual nature and divine origin.