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*Against Method* - Paul Feyerabend 1993

Modern philosophy of science has paid great attention to the understanding of scientific 'practice', in contrast to concentration on scientific 'method'. Paul Feyerabend's acclaimed work, which has contributed greatly to this new emphasis, shows the deficiencies of some widespread ideas about the nature of knowledge. He argues that the only feasible explanations of scientific successes are historical explanations, and that anarchism must now replace rationalism in the theory of knowledge. The third edition of this classic text contains a new preface and additional reflections at various points in which the author takes account both of recent debates on science and on the impact of scientific products and practices on the human community. While disavowing populism or relativism, Feyerabend continues to insist that the voice of the inexpert must be heard. Thus many environmental perils were first identified by non-experts against prevailing assumptions in the scientific community. Feyerabend's challenging reassessment of scientific claims and understandings are as pungent and timely as ever.

**Pale Blue Dot** - Carl Sagan 2011-07-06

"Fascinating . . . memorable . . . revealing . . . perhaps the best of Carl Sagan's books."—The Washington Post Book World (front page review) In *Cosmos*, the late astronomer Carl Sagan cast his gaze over the magnificent mystery of the Universe and made it accessible to millions of people around the world. Now in this stunning sequel, Carl Sagan completes his revolutionary journey through space and time. Future generations will look back on our epoch as the time when the human race finally broke into a radically new frontier—space. In *Pale Blue Dot*, Sagan traces the spellbinding history of our launch into the cosmos and assesses the future that looms before us as we move out into our own solar system and on to distant galaxies beyond. The exploration and eventual settlement of other worlds is neither a fantasy nor luxury, insists Sagan, but rather a necessary condition for the survival of the human race. "Takes readers far beyond *Cosmos* . . . Sagan sees humanity's future in the stars."—Chicago Tribune

*The Scientific Revolution* - Steven Shapin 2018-11-05

"There was no such thing as the Scientific Revolution, and this is a book about it." With this provocative and apparently paradoxical claim, Steven Shapin begins his bold, vibrant exploration of the origins of the modern scientific worldview, now updated with a new bibliographic essay featuring the latest scholarship. "An excellent book."—Anthony Gottlieb, *New York Times Book Review* "Timely and highly readable. . . . A book which every scientist curious about our predecessors should read."—Trevor Pinch, *New Scientist* "Shapin's account is informed, nuanced, and articulated with clarity. . . . This is not to attack or devalue science but to reveal its richness as the human endeavor that it most surely is. . . . Shapin's book is an impressive achievement."—David C. Lindberg, *Science* "It's hard to believe that there could be a more

accessible, informed or concise account. . . . The Scientific Revolution should be a set text in all the disciplines. And in all the indisciplines, too."—Adam Phillips, *London Review of Books*  
*Fire in the Minds of Men* - James H. Billington 1999

This book traces the origins of a faith--perhaps the faith of the century. Modern revolutionaries are believers, no less committed and intense than were Christians or Muslims of an earlier era. What is new is the belief that a perfect secular order will emerge from forcible overthrow of traditional authority. This inherently implausible idea energized Europe in the nineteenth century, and became the most pronounced ideological export of the West to the rest of the world in the twentieth century. Billington is interested in revolutionaries--the innovative creators of a new tradition. His historical frame extends from the waning of the French Revolution in the late eighteenth century to the beginnings of the Russian Revolution in the early twentieth century. The theater was Europe of the industrial era; the main stage was the journalistic offices within great cities such as Paris, Berlin, London, and St. Petersburg. Billington claims with considerable evidence that revolutionary ideologies were shaped as much by the occultism and proto-romanticism of Germany as the critical rationalism of the French Enlightenment. The conversion of social theory to political practice was essentially the work of three Russian revolutions: in 1905, March 1917, and November 1917. Events in the outer rim of the European world brought discussions about revolution out of the school rooms and press rooms of Paris and Berlin into the halls of power. Despite his hard realism about the adverse practical consequences of revolutionary dogma, Billington appreciates the identity of its best sponsors, people who preached social justice transcending traditional national, ethnic, and gender boundaries. When this book originally appeared *The New Republic* hailed it as "remarkable, learned and lively," while *The New Yorker* noted that Billington "pays great attention to the lives and emotions of individuals and this makes his book absorbing." It is an invaluable work of history and contribution to our understanding of political life.

**The Mystic Test Book of "The Hindu Occult Chambers"** - Lauron William De Laurence 1909

**Occult America** - Mitch Horowitz 2009

Traces America's unique relationship with occult movements and thinkers, providing meticulously researched coverage of such topics as the Freemasonry, Spiritualism, and transcendentalism movements; the origins of the Ouija board; and the practices of famous historical figures.

**The Information** - James Gleick 2011-03-01

From the bestselling author of the acclaimed *Chaos* and *Genius* comes a thoughtful and provocative exploration of the big ideas of the modern era: Information, communication, and information theory. Acclaimed science writer James Gleick presents an eye-opening vision of how

our relationship to information has transformed the very nature of human consciousness. A fascinating intellectual journey through the history of communication and information, from the language of Africa's talking drums to the invention of written alphabets; from the electronic transmission of code to the origins of information theory, into the new information age and the current deluge of news, tweets, images, and blogs. Along the way, Gleick profiles key innovators, including Charles Babbage, Ada Lovelace, Samuel Morse, and Claude Shannon, and reveals how our understanding of information is transforming not only how we look at the world, but how we live. A New York Times Notable Book A Los Angeles Times and Cleveland Plain Dealer Best Book of the Year Winner of the PEN/E. O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award

#### **An Outline of Occult Science -**

#### **Memories, Dreams, Reflections - C. G. Jung 2011-01-26**

An eye-opening biography of one of the most influential psychiatrists of the modern age, drawing from his lectures, conversations, and own writings. In the spring of 1957, when he was eighty-one years old, Carl Gustav Jung undertook the telling of his life story. *Memories, Dreams, Reflections* is that book, composed of conversations with his colleague and friend Aniela Jaffé, as well as chapters written in his own hand, and other materials. Jung continued to work on the final stages of the manuscript until shortly before his death on June 6, 1961, making this a uniquely comprehensive reflection on a remarkable life. Fully corrected, this edition also includes Jung's VII Sermones ad Mortuos.

#### Epistemology - Nicholas Rescher 2012-02-01

A comprehensive introduction to the theory of knowledge.

#### Archaeology, Anthropology, and Interstellar Communication - National Aeronautics Administration 2014-09-06

Addressing a field that has been dominated by astronomers, physicists, engineers, and computer scientists, the contributors to this collection raise questions that may have been overlooked by physical scientists about the ease of establishing meaningful communication with an extraterrestrial intelligence. These scholars are grappling with some of the enormous challenges that will face humanity if an information-rich signal emanating from another world is detected. By drawing on issues at the core of contemporary archaeology and anthropology, we can be much better prepared for contact with an extraterrestrial civilization, should that day ever come.

#### Occult Science in India and Among the Ancients - Louis Jacolliot 1901

An early western exploration of Hinduism and other eastern traditions such as the Kabbalah, from the angle that India might hold the key the origin of western, Egyptian, and Judaeo-Christian esoteric traditions. A high point of the book seems to be a travelogue of India featuring the author's encounters with a fakir's many demonstrations of his yogic powers.--Yog-Sothoth.com website (accessed 18 July 2022).

#### **Man and His Symbols** - Carl G. Jung 2012-02-01

The landmark text about the inner workings of the unconscious mind—from the symbolism that unlocks the meaning of our dreams to their effect on our waking lives and artistic impulses—featuring more than a hundred images that break down Carl Jung's revolutionary ideas “What emerges with great clarity from the book is that Jung has done immense service both to psychology as a science and to our general understanding of man in society.”—The Guardian “Our psyche is part of nature, and its enigma is limitless.” Since our inception, humanity has looked to dreams for guidance. But what are they? How can we understand them? And how can we use them to shape our lives? There is perhaps no one more equipped to answer these questions than the legendary psychologist Carl G. Jung. It is in his life's work that the unconscious mind comes to be understood as an expansive, rich world just as vital and true a part of the mind as the conscious, and it is in our dreams—those personal, integral expressions of our deepest selves—that it communicates itself to us. A seminal text written explicitly for the general reader, *Man and His Symbols* is a guide to understanding the symbols in our dreams and using that

knowledge to build fuller, more receptive lives. Full of fascinating case studies and examples pulled from philosophy, history, myth, fairy tales, and more, this groundbreaking work—profusely illustrated with hundreds of visual examples—offers invaluable insight into the symbols we dream that demand understanding, why we seek meaning at all, and how these very symbols affect our lives. By illuminating the means to examine our prejudices, interpret psychological meanings, break free of our influences, and recenter our individuality, *Man and His Symbols* proves to be—decades after its conception—a revelatory, absorbing, and relevant experience.

#### **The Laboratory of the Mind** - James Robert Brown 2005-09-26

Thought experiments are performed in the laboratory of the mind. Beyond this metaphor it is difficult to say just what these remarkable devices for investigating nature are or how they work. Though most scientists and philosophers would admit their great importance, there has been very little serious study of them. This volume is the first book-length investigation of thought experiments. Starting with Galileo's argument on falling bodies, Brown describes numerous examples of the most influential thought experiments from the history of science. Following this introduction to the subject, some substantial and provocative claims are made, the principle being that some thought experiments should be understood in the same way that platonists understand mathematical activity: as an intellectual grasp of an independently existing abstract realm. With its clarity of style and structure, *The Laboratory of the Mind* will find readers among all philosophers of science as well as scientists who have puzzled over how thought experiments work.

#### Blown to Bits - Harold Abelson 2008

'Blown to Bits' is about how the digital explosion is changing everything. The text explains the technology, why it creates so many surprises and why things often don't work the way we expect them to. It is also about things the information explosion is destroying: old assumptions about who is really in control of our lives.

#### *The Feminine Mystique* - Betty Friedan 2010

When Betty Friedan produced *The Feminine Mystique* in 1963, she could not have realized how the discovery and debate of her contemporaries' general malaise would shake up society. Victims of a false belief system, these women were following strict social convention by loyally conforming to the pretty image of the magazines, and found themselves forced to seek meaning in their lives only through a family and a home. Friedan's controversial book about these women - and every woman - would ultimately set Second Wave feminism in motion and begin the battle for equality. This groundbreaking and life-changing work remains just as powerful, important and true as it was forty-five years ago, and is essential reading both as a historical document and as a study of women living in a man's world. 'One of the most influential nonfiction books of the twentieth century.' New York Times 'Feminism ..... began with the work of a single person: Friedan.' Nicholas Lemann With a new Introduction by Lionel Shriver

#### **When God Had a Wife** - Lynn Picknett 2019-12-10

Reveals the tradition of goddess worship in early Judaism and how Jesus attempted to restore the feminine side of the faith • Provides historical and archaeological evidence for an earlier form of Hebrew worship with both male and female gods, including a 20th-century discovery of a Hebrew temple dedicated to both Yahweh and the warrior goddess Anat • Explores the Hebrew pantheon of goddesses, including Yahweh's wife, Asherah, goddess of fertility and childbirth • Shows how both Jesus and his great rival Simon Magus were attempting to restore the ancient, goddess-worshipping religion of the Israelites Despite what Jews and Christians--and indeed most people--believe, the ancient Israelites venerated several deities besides the Old Testament god Yahweh, including the goddess Asherah, Yahweh's wife, who was worshipped openly in the Jerusalem Temple. After the reforms of King Josiah and Prophet Jeremiah, the religion recognized Yahweh alone, and history was rewritten to make it appear that it had always been that way. The worship of Asherah and other goddesses was now heresy, and so the status of women was downgraded and they were blamed for God's wrath. However, as Lynn Picknett and Clive Prince reveal, the

spiritual legacy of the Jewish goddesses and the Sacred Feminine lives on. Drawing on historical research, they examine how goddess worship thrived in early Judaism and included a pantheon of goddesses. They share new evidence for an earlier form of Hebrew worship that prayed to both male and female gods, including a 20th-century archaeological discovery of a Hebrew temple dedicated to both Yahweh and the goddess Anat. Uncovering the Sacred Feminine in early Christianity, the authors show how, in the first century AD, both Jesus and his great rival, Simon Magus, were attempting to restore the goddess-worshipping religion of the Israelites. The authors reveal how both men accorded great honor to the women they adored and who traveled with them as priestesses, Jesus's Mary Magdalene and Simon's Helen. But, as had happened centuries before, the Church rewrote history to erase the feminine side of the faith, deliberately ignoring Jesus's real message and again condemning women to marginalization and worse. Providing all the necessary evidence to restore the goddess to both Judaism and Christianity, Picknett and Prince expose the disastrous consequences of the suppression of the feminine from these two great religions and reveal how we have been collectively and instinctively craving the return of the Sacred Feminine for millennia.

**Stolen Legacy** - George G. M. James 2013-04-08

For centuries the world has been misled about the original source of the Arts and Sciences; for centuries Socrates, Plato and Aristotle have been falsely idolized as models of intellectual greatness; and for centuries the African continent has been called the Dark Continent, because Europe coveted the honor of transmitting to the world, the Arts and Sciences. It is indeed surprising how, for centuries, the Greeks have been praised by the Western World for intellectual accomplishments which belong without a doubt to the Egyptians or the peoples of North Africa.

**A History of Modern Psychology** - Duane Schultz 2013-10-02

A History of Modern Psychology, 3rd Edition discusses the development and decline of schools of thought in modern psychology. The book presents the continuing refinement of the tools, techniques, and methods of psychology in order to achieve increased precision and objectivity. Chapters focus on relevant topics such as the role of history in understanding the diversity and divisiveness of contemporary psychology; the impact of physics on the cognitive revolution and humanistic psychology; the influence of mechanism on Descartes's thinking; and the evolution of the third force, humanistic psychology. Undergraduate students of psychology and related fields will find the book invaluable in their pursuit of knowledge.

**The Interpretation of Cultures** - Clifford Geertz 2017-08-15

In *The Interpretation of Cultures*, the most original anthropologist of his generation moved far beyond the traditional confines of his discipline to develop an important new concept of culture. This groundbreaking book, winner of the 1974 Sorokin Award of the American Sociological Association, helped define for an entire generation of anthropologists what their field is ultimately about.

**Fashionable Nonsense** - Alan Sokal 2014-01-14

In 1996 physicist Alan Sokal published an essay in *Social Text*--an influential academic journal of cultural studies--touting the deep similarities between quantum gravitational theory and postmodern philosophy. Soon thereafter, the essay was revealed as a brilliant parody, a catalog of nonsense written in the cutting-edge but impenetrable lingo of postmodern theorists. The event sparked a furious debate in academic circles and made the headlines of newspapers in the U.S. and abroad. Now in *Fashionable Nonsense: Postmodern Intellectuals' Abuse of Science*, Sokal and his fellow physicist Jean Bricmont expand from where the hoax left off. In a delightfully witty and clear voice, the two thoughtfully and thoroughly dismantle the pseudo-scientific writings of some of the most fashionable French and American intellectuals. More generally, they challenge the widespread notion that scientific theories are mere "narrations" or social constructions.

*God and the New Physics* - P. C. W. Davies 1984-10-16

Argues that the discoveries of twentieth-century physics--relativity and the quantum theory--demand a radical reformulation of the fundamentals of reality and a way of thinking, that is closer

to mysticism than materialism.

**The Book of Forbidden Knowledge** - Johnson Smith 2019-09-15

This book covers a number of different topics, including Black Magic, lucky numbers and insight into dreams. Instructions are provided on how to be a spirit medium and hypnotize, among other things. It's easy to read and is as informative as it is entertaining.

*The Occult World* - Alfred Percy Sinnett 1882

Lunar Sourcebook - Grant Heiken 1991-04-26

The only work to date to collect data gathered during the American and Soviet missions in an accessible and complete reference of current scientific and technical information about the Moon.

**Understanding Philosophy of Science** - James Ladyman 2012-08-06

Few can imagine a world without telephones or televisions; many depend on computers and the Internet as part of daily life. Without scientific theory, these developments would not have been possible. In this exceptionally clear and engaging introduction to philosophy of science, James Ladyman explores the philosophical questions that arise when we reflect on the nature of the scientific method and the knowledge it produces. He discusses whether fundamental philosophical questions about knowledge and reality might be answered by science, and considers in detail the debate between realists and antirealists about the extent of scientific knowledge. Along the way, central topics in philosophy of science, such as the demarcation of science from non-science, induction, confirmation and falsification, the relationship between theory and observation and relativism are all addressed. Important and complex current debates over underdetermination, inference to the best explanation and the implications of radical theory change are clarified and clearly explained for those new to the subject.

**The Unnatural Nature of Science** - Lewis Wolpert 1994

Wolpert draws on the entire history of science, from Thales of Miletus to Watson and Crick, from the study of eugenics to the discovery of the double helix. The result is a scientist's view of the culture of science, authoritative, informed, and mercifully accessible to those who find cohabiting with this culture a puzzling experience.

**A New Model of the Universe** - P. D. Ouspensky 2013-02

2013 Reprint of 1931 Edition. Exact facsimile of the original edition, not reproduced with Optical Recognition Software. In this classic work, Ouspensky analyzes certain of the older schools of thought from the East and the West, connecting them with modern ideas and explaining them in light of the most recent discoveries and speculations in newer schools of philosophy and religion. In the course of his research he integrates the theories of relativity, the fourth dimension and current psychological theories. The book closes with a consideration of the sex problem from the perspective of sex in relation to the evolution of man toward superman.

**The Secret Teachings of All Ages** - Manly P. Hall 2021-01-01

NUMEROUS volumes have been written as commentaries upon the secret systems of philosophy existing in the ancient world, but the ageless truths of life, like many of the earth's greatest thinkers, have usually been clothed in shabby garments. The present work is an attempt to supply a tome worthy of those seers and sages whose thoughts are the substance of its pages. To bring about this coalescence of Beauty and Truth has proved most costly, but I believe that the result will produce an effect upon the mind of the reader which will more than justify the expenditure.

Kabbalah, Magic, and the Great Work of Self-transformation - Lyam Thomas Christopher 2006

Advancing to higher levels of ritual magic with purpose and power requires an exaltation of consciousness--a spiritual transformation that can serve as an antidote to the seeming banality of modern life. Based on Kabbalistic techniques, the teachings of the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, and an Hermetic tradition spanning nearly two thousand years, this innovative new work introduces the history of the Golden Dawn and its mythology, the Tree of Life, Deities, demons, rules for practicing magic, and components of effective ritual. A comprehensive course of self-initiation using Israel Regardie's seminal *Golden Dawn* as a key reference point, Kabbalah, Magic

and the Great Work of Self-Transformation guides you through the levels of the Golden Dawn system of ritual magic. Each grade in this system corresponds with a sphere in the Kabbalistic Tree of Life and includes daily rituals, required reading, written assignments, projects, and additional exercises. Knowledgeable and true to tradition, author Lyam Thomas Christopher presents a well-grounded and modern step-by-step program toward spiritual attainment, providing a lucid gateway toward a more awakened state. Finalist for the Coalition of Visionary Resources Award for Best Magick/Shamanism Book

*The spirits' book* - Allan Kardec 2021-11-11

After you have read *The Spirits' Book*, you will no longer have any reason to fear death. *The Spirits' Book* will provide you with the answers to nearly all the questions you may have with regards to the origin, nature and destiny of each and every soul on earth – and those of other worlds as well. It also addresses the issues of God, creation, moral laws and the nature of spirits and their relationships with humans. The book contains answers that were dictated to mediums by highly evolved spirits who love God. *The Spirits' Book* is the initial landmark publication of a Doctrine that has made a profound impact on the thought and view of life of a considerable portion of humankind since the first French edition was published in 1857.

**Psychic Self-Defense** - Dion Fortune 2011-08-01

After finding herself the subject of a powerful psychic attack in the 1930's, famed British occultist Dion Fortune wrote this detailed instruction manual on protecting oneself from paranormal attack. This classic psychic selfdefense guide explains how to understand the signs of a psychic attack, vampirism, hauntings, and methods of defense. Everything you need to know about the methods, motives, and physical aspects of a psychic attack and how to overcome it is here, along with a look at the role psychic elements play in mental illness and how to recognize them. This is one of the best guides to detection and defense against psychic attack from one of the leading occult writers of the 20th century.

**The Forbidden Universe** - Lynn Picknett 2011-04-01

Secret societies, famous scientists, ancient Egyptian mysticism, and a fascinating addition to the god-versus-science debate: the Catholic Church. By the bestselling authors of *The Templar Revelation* and *Mary Magdalene*, *The Forbidden Universe* reveals how the foundations of modern science were based around a desire to destroy the church. The great pioneering scientists of the Renaissance and the early Enlightenment (including Copernicus, Galileo, and Sir Isaac Newton) were fervent devotees of the philosophical/mystical system of Hermeticism. Many of the most important scientists of this age, including Galileo, belonged to a secret society called the Giordanisti, which had the agenda to overthrow the Church and establish a new age of Hermetic supremacy.

**The Manchurian Candidate** - Richard Condon 2013-11-25

The classic thriller about a hostile foreign power infiltrating American politics: "Brilliant . . . wild and exhilarating." —*The New Yorker* A war hero and the recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, Sgt. Raymond Shaw is keeping a deadly secret—even from himself. During his time as a prisoner of war in North Korea, he was brainwashed by his Communist captors and transformed into a deadly weapon—a sleeper assassin, programmed to kill without question or mercy at his captors' signal. Now he's been returned to the United States with a covert mission: to kill a candidate running for US president . . . This "shocking, tense" and sharply satirical novel has become a modern classic, and was the basis for two film adaptations (*San Francisco Chronicle*). "Crammed with suspense." —*Chicago Tribune* "Condon is wickedly skillful." —*Time*

*DMT and My Occult Mind* - Dick Khan 2017-02-17

There is still much to learn about the world in which we live. This sense of wonder and curiosity is what defines scientists across the globe. Dimethyltryptamine (DMT)-also known as "the spirit molecule"-is a substance believed to dramatically expand the way an individual views the world. One man set out not only to enter this altered state of consciousness through carefully researched delivery of DMT but to document his experiences. As he soon learns, the world we live in is one

that we should question. Much exists outside the physical world, and with entheogenic substances-such as DMT-humans have the potential to view the unknown with stunning and endless philosophical possibilities. *DMT and My Occult Mind* is unlike anything written before on the subject. It is a true work of creative vision, a book that thoughtfully and rationally investigates the very real possibility of a parallel occult kingdom. Dick Khan offers a breathtaking new-age account of discovery. With fearless determination to investigate occult realities with rational focus, he creates a feeling and a sense of awe and inspiration. He encourages us all to look at the world around us and say, "I wonder..."

**The Kybalion** - The Three Initiates 2021-10-01

*The Kybalion: A Study of the Hermetic Philosophy of Ancient Egypt and Greece* is a book originally published in 1908 by New Thought author William Walker Atkinson under the pseudonym "The Three Initiates". This book is not exactly *The Kybalion* itself, it is more of a critical interpretation by Atkinson on hermetic philosophy. As such, it should be read with this in mind that it is not an authoritative hermetic text, but one only dedicated to Hermes Trismegistus. *The Kybalion* presents seven universal principles it proposes to be the Seven Hermetic Principles: Mentalism, Correspondence, Vibration, Polarity, Rhythm, Cause and Effect, and Gender. These principles are essentially explications of cycles, and before these principles is the notion of the primacy of mind as the cause of All (philosophical mentalism). This idea of mentalism is inspired by what is written about the Mind in *The Hermetica*. Coinciding with Spiritualism, New Thought, and Theosophy, the book became very popular in New Age movements, particularly with its notion of spiritual and mental alchemy. *The Kybalion* is a text which must be read with this in mind, while it is an interpretation of hermetic philosophy, it is in part still a relic of its time. Its influence cannot be understated, and the need to read it critically cannot be overstated.

**The Warfare of Science** - Andrew Dickson White 1876

**The Language Instinct** - Steven Pinker 2010-12-14

The classic book on the development of human language by the world's leading expert on language and the mind. In this classic, the world's expert on language and mind lucidly explains everything you always wanted to know about language: how it works, how children learn it, how it changes, how the brain computes it, and how it evolved. With deft use of examples of humor and wordplay, Steven Pinker weaves our vast knowledge of language into a compelling story: language is a human instinct, wired into our brains by evolution. *The Language Instinct* received the William James Book Prize from the American Psychological Association and the Public Interest Award from the Linguistics Society of America. This edition includes an update on advances in the science of language since *The Language Instinct* was first published.

**Phantoms in the Brain** - V. S. Ramachandran 1999-08-18

Neuroscientist V.S. Ramachandran is internationally renowned for uncovering answers to the deep and quirky questions of human nature that few scientists have dared to address. His bold insights about the brain are matched only by the stunning simplicity of his experiments -- using such low-tech tools as cotton swabs, glasses of water and dime-store mirrors. In *Phantoms in the Brain*, Dr. Ramachandran recounts how his work with patients who have bizarre neurological disorders has shed new light on the deep architecture of the brain, and what these findings tell us about who we are, how we construct our body image, why we laugh or become depressed, why we may believe in God, how we make decisions, deceive ourselves and dream, perhaps even why we're so clever at philosophy, music and art. Some of his most notable cases: A woman paralyzed on the left side of her body who believes she is lifting a tray of drinks with both hands offers a unique opportunity to test Freud's theory of denial. A man who insists he is talking with God challenges us to ask: Could we be "wired" for religious experience? A woman who hallucinates cartoon characters illustrates how, in a sense, we are all hallucinating, all the time. Dr. Ramachandran's inspired medical detective work pushes the boundaries of medicine's last great frontier -- the human mind -- yielding new and provocative insights into the "big questions" about consciousness and the self.

