Books Our Editors Are Reading


Philosopher Paul Feyerabend’s Against Method is a breath of fresh air for anyone who feels that societal rules and norms and scientific do’s and don’ts are as likely to get in the way as help.

...Rosemarie Anderson


Contributions by three realized masters in the Naqshbandiyya lineage.


A lay Tibetan lama from the Nyingma tradition, author of The Magic of Awareness, and No Self, No Problem.

... Paul M. Clemens


... Jack Engler


... Jorge Ferrer


... *Michael S. Hutton-Woodland*


This may be the most controversial book that the American Psychological Association has ever published. It is a post-materialistic text that asserts the primacy of consciousness. It is theory-driven and data based, and its critics will need to rebut both pillars of this imposing structure.


This remarkable book is a collection of contributions by people who are striving to change the prevailing paradigms underlying contemporary American culture. The environmental movement is the core of a tree that has many branches, including Native American land management, gift economies (e.g., Trobriand Islanders’ “exchanges”), parking lot jam sessions, participatory urban planning, and dozens of other transformative ideas and practices.


This is more than a collection of humorous, profound, and poignant verses; it is a reflection on the poet’s life, accompanied by photographs that chart the course of a journey well-traveled.

... *Stanley Krippner*


... *Francis Lu*


This book has been around for a while, but I missed out on Judith’s work because I was living and working overseas. It is a compelling story about someone’s development as a ‘seer’ and has surprising parallels to my own story, detailed in my 2014 book, *The Way of a Seer*. 

222  *The Journal of Transpersonal Psychology, 2016, Vol. 48, No. 2*

Lisa Randall is a highly gifted mathematical physicist who is able to unravel the arcane world of multi-dimensional string theory into a conceptual framework accessible to the non-technical reader.


Re-reading this after many years. It has a lot to say to us as we deal with the political/social world of contemporary America.

... Peter Nelson


The author’s excellent scholarship is based on extensive practical experience and extensive training and accomplishment in the meditative traditions, not just book learning.

Shinzen was in a prestigious Ph.D. program on Eastern spirituality but had the rather non-academic idea that before he wrote his dissertation on meditation, he might actually spend some time in some culture where they actually did meditation... What a wild idea! Who in the world would want actual experience instead of just book learning? Off he went to Japan. He could already speak fluent Japanese, so language wasn’t a problem. He went to a Shingon monastery, which preserves a form of a Vajrayana Buddhism that came to Japan, and they told him no way would he be allowed to “study” what they did, but if he wanted to become a monk, he could learn from the inside.

He never went back to finish his dissertation, but became a monk in many different traditions before finally returning to the United States. One of his goals was to make effective meditation techniques available to Westerners in a more suitable form than the “samurai boot camp” stuff he had to go through, which is good with me!

... Charles T. Tart


A fine contribution to our understanding of the universal path of love as illuminated across traditions and contemporary scientific perspectives.

... Frances Vaughan


A week of intensive personal interviews by Abrams with two living spiritual icons, with interspersed psychological research findings. Neither polyannish nor denialist in their teaching on joy, they engage real world issues in a heartfelt, informed real way.

Designed to stimulate interest in the bizarre, strangely profound, unusual and weird aspects of natural wonders and human culture, this full color illustrated collection of 600 entries, can also be seen as a partial history of homo sapiens’ confrontation with the oddities of the world and an attempt to understand the great mysteries of human life and death.

... Miles Vich


... Jenny Wade

**Erratum**

In Books Our Editors Are Reading, Volume 48(1), 2016, the word “reviewing” appeared in lieu of “revealing” in comments about a book Miles Vich recommended (publication error). The correct wording is:


Extensive, revealing, wide-ranging interviews with males 9-90 years.

... Miles Vich
Readers of print books absorb and remember more of the plot than readers of e-books do, according to a study that was presented in Italy in 2014. In an earlier study, print readers also scored higher in other areas, such as empathy, immersion in the book, and understanding of the narrative. Scientists believe this effect is related to the tactile sensation of holding a book in your hands. This article contains affiliate links to products selected by our editors. Mental Floss may receive a commission for purchases made through these links. environment Gift Guide nature shopping Smart Shopping. Our literary editor highlights the most notable new book releases this February. Beyond detailing the complexity of their relationship, the book is also a story of migration, home and what it is to stay hopeful in the face of darkness. Brit(ish) by Afua Hirsch. Brit(ish) is a powerful exploration of race, identity and belonging from celebrated barrister-turned-writer Afua Hirsch. Told through her own experience of everyday racism in the UK, Hirsch provides a detailed social commentary on the wider issues of race in modern-day Britain. Read the opening to her book here. Cover courtesy of Jonathan Cape. The House of Impossible Beauties by Joseph Cassara.