

## Some books that people who are interested in science and geology might find particularly interesting and enjoyable

Revised August 6, 2007

Note: some of these books are available in the Science section of the "general reading" area (*i.e.*, not in the textbook section) of the Baylor Bookstore.

### General Science

- Angier, N., 2007, **The canon -- A whirligig tour of the beautiful basics of science**: Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company, 293 p., ISBN-13: 978-0-618-24295-5.
- Atkins, P.W., 1995, **The periodic kingdom -- A journey into the land of the chemical elements**: New York, Basic Books, 161 p., ISBN 0-465-07265-8.
- Ball, P., 2002, **The elements -- A very short introduction**: Oxford University Press, 179 p., ISBN 0-19-284099-1.
- Ben-Ari, Moti, 2005, **Just a theory -- exploring the nature of science**: Amherst, New York, Prometheus Books, 237 p., ISBN 1-59102-285-1.
- Bronowski, J., 1965, **Science and human values**: New York, Harper and Row, 119 p., ISBN 0-06-097281-5.
- Bronowski, J., 1978, **The common sense of science**: Cambridge, Massachusetts, Harvard University Press, 154 p., ISBN 0-674-14651-4.
- Collins, F.S., 2006, **The language of God -- A scientist presents evidence for belief**: New York, Free Press, 305 p., ISBN 978-1-4165-4274-2
- Goodall, J., 1990, **Through a window -- my thirty years with the chimpanzees of Gombe**: Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company, 268 p., ISBN 0-395-50081-8.
- Goodall, J., with Berman, P., 1999, **Reason for hope -- a spiritual journey**: New York, Warner Books, 282 p., ISBN 0-446-52225-2.
- Laughlin, R.B., 2005, **A different universe -- reinventing physics from the bottom down**: New York, Basic Books, 254 p., ISBN 0-465-03828-X.
- Lederman, L.M., and Hill, C.T., 2004, **Symmetry and the beautiful universe**: Amherst, New York, Prometheus Books, 363 p., ISBN 1-59102-242-8.
- Lee, J.A., 2000, **The scientific endeavor -- a primer on scientific principles and practice**: San Francisco, California, Benjamin Cummings, 186 p., ISBN 0-8053-4596-5.
- Mathez, E.A., and Webster, J.D., 2004, **The Earth machine -- the science of a dynamic planet**: New York, Columbia University Press, 335 p., ISBN 0-231-12578-X.
- Mlodinow, L., 2003, **Feynman's rainbow -- A search for beauty in physics and in life**: New York, Warner Books, 171 p., ISBN 0-446-69251-4.
- Powell, J.L., 2005, **Grand Canyon -- Solving Earth's grandest puzzle**: New York, Pi Press, 309 p., ISBN 0-13-147989-X.
- Snow, C.P., 1934, **The search**: New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 343 p.,
- Snow, C.P., 1959, **The two cultures**: Cambridge, UK, Cambridge University Press, 107 p., ISBN 0-521-45730-0 (Canto edition, 1993).

### Science and Society

- Barry, J.M., 1998, **Rising tide -- The great Mississippi flood of 1927 and how it changed America**: Simon & Schuster, 528 p., ISBN 0684840022 (paperback edition).
- Horne, J., 2006, **Breach of faith -- Hurricane Katrina and the near death of a great American city**: New York, Random House, 412 p., ISBN 1-4000-6552-6.
- McPhee, J., 1989, **The control of Nature**: New York, The Noonday Press, 272 p., ISBN 0-374-52259-6.
- Ryan, W., and Pitman, W, 1998, **Noah's flood -- the new scientific discoveries about the event that changed history**: New York, Simon and Schuster, 319 p., ISBN 0-684-81052-2.
- Sass, S.L., 1998, **The substance of civilization -- materials and human history from the Stone Age to the Age of Silicon**: New York, Arcade Publishing, 291 p., ISBN 1-55970-371-7.
- Weisman, A., 2007, **The world without us**: New York, Thomas Dunne Books, St. Martin's Press, 324 p., ISBN-13: 978-0-312-34729-1.

## Extinction, Evolution, Origin of Life on Earth

- Benton, M.J., 2003, **When life nearly died -- The greatest mass extinction of all time**: London, Thames & Hudson Ltd., 336 p., ISBN 0-500-05116-X.
- Cairns-Smith, A.G., 1985, **Seven clues to the origin of life**: Cambridge, UK, Cambridge University Press (Canto edition, 1990), 131 p., ISBN 0-521-39828-2.
- Carroll, Sean B., 2005, **Endless forms most beautiful -- The new science of evo devo and the making of the animal kingdom**: New York, W.W. Norton & Co., 350 p., ISBN 0-393-06016-0.
- Carroll, Sean B., 2006, **The making of the fittest -- DNA and the ultimate forensic record of evolution**: New York, W. W. Norton & Co., 301 p., ISBN-13: 978-0-393-06163-5 or ISBN-10: 0-393-06163-9.
- Collins, F.S., 2006, **The language of God -- A scientist presents evidence for belief**: New York, Free Press, 305 p., ISBN 978-1-4165-4274-2
- Courtillot, V., 1999, **Evolutionary catastrophes -- the science of mass extinction**: Cambridge, UK, Cambridge University Press, 173 p., ISBN 0-521-58392-6.
- Dawkins, R., 2004, **The ancestor's tale -- A pilgrimage to the dawn of evolution**: Boston, Mariner Books, 673 p., ISBN-13: 978-0-618-61916-0.
- Dyson, F., 1999, **Origins of life** [2nd edition]: Cambridge, UK, Cambridge University Press, 100 p., ISBN 0-521-62668-4.
- Erwin, D.H., 2006, **Extinction -- How life on Earth nearly ended 250 million years ago**: Princeton, New Jersey, Princeton University Press, 306 p., ISBN 0-691-00524-9.
- Gould, S.J., 1989, **Wonderful life -- the Burgess shale and the nature of history**: New York, W.W. Norton & Company, 347 p., ISBN 0-393-02705-8.
- Hallam, A., and Wignall, P.B., 1997, **Mass extinctions and their aftermath**: Oxford, UK, Oxford University Press, 328 p., ISBN 0-198549164.
- Hazen, R.M., 2005, **Genesis -- The scientific quest for life's origin**: Washington, D.C., Joseph Henry Press, 339 p., ISBN 0-309-09432-1.
- Leakey, R., 1994, **The origin of humankind**: New York, Basic Books, 171 p., ISBN 0-465-03135-8.
- Miller, K., 2000, **Finding Darwin's God**: Harper Collins Publishers, 352 p., ISBN 0060930497
- Officer, C., and Page, J., 1996, **The great dinosaur extinction controversy**: Reading, Massachusetts, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 209 p., ISBN 0-201-48384-X.
- Raup, D., 1991, **Extinction -- bad luck or bad genes**: New York, W.W. Norton & Company, 210 p., ISBN 0-393-03008-3.

- Roughgarden, J., 2006, **Evolution and Christian faith, reflections of an evolutionary biologist**: Washington, D.C., Island Press, 155 p., ISBN 1-59726-098-3.
- Schwartz, J.H., 1999, **Sudden origins -- fossils, genes, and the emergence of species**: New York, John Wiley & Sons, 420 p., ISBN 0-471-37912-3.
- Scott, E.C., 2004, **Evolution vs. creationism -- An introduction**: Berkeley, University of California Press, 272 p., ISBN 0-520-24650-0.
- Ward, P.D., 1992, **On Methuselah's trail -- living fossils and the great extinctions**: New York, W.H. Freeman & Company, 212 p., ISBN 0-7167-2203-8.

## Human Evolution

- Gibbons, A., 2006, **The first humans -- the race to discover our earliest ancestors**: New York, Doubleday, 306 p., ISBN 0-385-51226-0.
- Olson, S., 2002, **Mapping human history -- genes, race, and our common origins**: Boston, Mariner Books, 292 p., ISBN 0-618-35210-4.
- Wells, S., 2002, **The journey of man -- a genetic odyssey**: Princeton, New Jersey, Princeton University Press, 224 p., ISBN 0-691-11532-X.
- Wells, S., 2006, **Deep ancestry, inside the genographic project**: Washington, D.C., National Geographic Society, 247 p., ISBN 0-7922-6215-8.
- Wood, B., 2005, **Human evolution -- A very short introduction**: Oxford University Press, 131 p., ISBN 0-19-280360-3.

## Geologic Time

- Cutler, A., 2003, **The seashell on the mountaintop -- a story of science, sainthood, and the humble genius who discovered a new history of the Earth**: New York, Dutton, 228 p., ISBN 0-525-94708-6.
- Dalrymple, G.B., 2004, **Ancient Earth, ancient skies -- the age of Earth and its cosmic surroundings**: Stanford, California, Stanford University Press, ISBN 0-8047-4933-7.
- Lewis, C., 2000, **The dating game -- One man's search for the age of the Earth**: Cambridge, UK, Cambridge University Press, 253 p., ISBN 0-521-79051-4.
- Repcheck, Jack, 2003, **The man who found time -- James Hutton and the discovery of Earth's antiquity**: New York, Basic Books, ISBN: 9780738206929 or ISBN-10: 073820692X.

## Astronomy and Cosmology

- Gleiser, M., 2005, **The dancing universe -- from creation myths to the Big Bang**: Lebanon, New Hampshire, Dartmouth College Press, 338 p., ISBN 1-58465-466-X.
- Gribbin, J., and Gribbin, M., 2000, **Stardust -- supernovae and life, the cosmic connection**: New Haven, Connecticut, Yale Nota Bene, 238 p., ISBN 0-300-09097-8
- Raymo, Chet, 2001, **An intimate look at the night sky**: New York, Walker and Company, 242 p., ISBN 0-8027-7670-1.
- Weinberg, S., 1988, **The first three minutes -- a modern view of the origin of the universe** [updated edition]: New York, Basic Books, 198 p., ISBN 0-465-02436-X.

## Resources

- Deffeyes, K.S., 2003, **Hubbert's peak -- the impending world oil shortage**: Princeton University Press, 224 p., ISBN 0-691-11625-3 (revised paperback edition).
- Deffeyes, K.S., 2005, **Beyond oil -- the view from Hubbert's peak**: New York, Hill and Wang, 224 p., ISBN 0-8090-2956-1.

## Climate Change

- Archer, D., 2007, **Global warming -- understanding the forecast**: Blackwell Publishing, 194 p., ISBN 978-1-4051-4039-3.
- Dessler, A.E., and Parson, E.A., 2006, **The science and politics of global climate change -- a guide to the debate**: Cambridge University Press, 190 p., ISBN 0-521-53941-2.
- Fagan, B., 2000, **The little ice age -- how climate made history 1300-1850**: New York, Basic Books, 246 p., ISBN 0-465-02271-5.
- Fagan, B., 2004, **The long summer -- how climate changed civilization**: New York, Basic Books, 284 p., ISBN 0-465-02282-0.
- Macdougall, D., 2004, **Frozen Earth -- The once and future story of ice ages**: Berkeley, University of California Press, 256 p., ISBN 0-520-24824-4.
- Ruddiman, W.F., 2005, **Plows, plagues & petroleum**: Princeton, New Jersey, Princeton University Press, 202 p., ISBN 0-691-12164-8.

## Volcanoes

- Thompson, D., 2000, **Volcano cowboys -- the rocky evolution of a dangerous science**: New York, Thomas Dunne Books, 326 p., ISBN 0-312-28668-6
- Williams, S., and Montaigne, F., 2001, **Surviving Galeras**: Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company, 270 p., ISBN 0-618-03168-5.

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The suggestions on this page are based on the personal opinion of Vince Cronin, and do not constitute official recommendations or endorsements by Baylor University or its Geology Department.

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