

The Calendar David Ewing Duncan

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Dallas Barbara A. Curran
2005-08 "Previously published
as 25 Years of Dallas by
Virtualbookworm.com
Publishing"--T.p. verso.

Drop Dead Healthy A. J.
Jacobs 2012-04-10 From the
bestselling author of The Year
of Living Biblically and The
Know-It-All comes the true and
truly hilarious story of one
person's quest to become the
healthiest man in the world.
Hospitalized with a freak case

of tropical pneumonia, goaded
by his wife telling him, "I don't
want to be a widow at forty-
five," and ashamed of a middle-
aged body best described as "a
python that swallowed a goat,"
A.J. Jacobs felt compelled to
change his ways and get
healthy. And he didn't want
only to lose weight, or finish a
triathlon, or lower his
cholesterol. His ambitions were
far greater: maximal health
from head to toe. The task was
epic. He consulted an army of

experts— sleep consultants and sex clinicians, nutritionists and dermatologists. He subjected himself to dozens of different workouts—from Strollercize classes to Finger Fitness sessions, from bouldering with cavemen to a treadmill desk. And he took in a cartload of diets: raw foods, veganism, high protein, calorie restriction, extreme chewing, and dozens more. He bought gadgets and helmets, earphones and juicers. He poked and he pinched. He counted and he measured. The story of his transformation is not only brilliantly entertaining, but it just may be the healthiest book ever written. It will make you laugh until your sides split and endorphins flood your bloodstream. It will alter the contours of your brain, imprinting you with better habits of hygiene and diet. It will move you emotionally and get you moving physically in surprising ways. And it will give you occasion to reflect on the body's many mysteries and the ultimate pursuit of health:

a well-lived life.

The Geneticist Who Played Hoops with My DNA

David Ewing Duncan 2005-05-10

A narrative of the historical potential of current breakthroughs in biotechnology explores its promises for good, from cures for cancer and an end to pollution, to its possible negative consequences, from social upheavals to bio-weapons; in an analysis that also considers the implications of scientist personality on biotechnological advancement. 25,000 first printing.

Plants Feed Me

Lizzy Rockwell 2014-01-17

Sink your teeth into the plants that feed the world—flowers, fruits, seeds, and all! With its simple text and bright, appealing illustrations, this book is perfect for young readers learning about where their food comes from. Clearly-labeled diagrams show the different parts of plants we use and eat—leaves of spinach and cabbage, the roots of carrot plants, and the wide variety of fruits, such as apples, berries,

and tomatoes. Plants Feed Me explores the different types of seeds we eat— beans, nuts, rice, and even how wheat is ground into flour and used to make many other types of food. Smiling children pick fruits and vegetables, and learn how plants grow from seeds, stretching toward the sky for sun and into the earth for nutrients. This celebration of fruits, vegetables, and more is sure to get kids interested in what's on their plates!

Talking to Robots David Ewing Duncan 2019-07-16 Award-winning journalist David Ewing Duncan considers 24 visions of possible human-robot futures—Incredible scenarios from Teddy Bots to Warrior Bots, and Politician Bots to Sex Bots—Grounded in real technologies and possibilities and inspired by our imagination. What robot and AI systems are being built and imagined right now? What do they say about us, their creators? Will they usher in a fantastic new future, or destroy us? What do some of our greatest thinkers, from

physicist Brian Greene and futurist Kevin Kelly to inventor Dean Kamen, geneticist George Church, and filmmaker Tiffany Shlain, anticipate about our human-robot future? For even as robots and A.I. intrigue us and make us anxious about the future, our fascination with robots has always been about more than the potential of the technology—it's also about what robots tell us about being human.

Experimental Man David Ewing Duncan 2009-03-03 Bestselling author David Ewing Duncan takes the ultimate high-tech medical exam, investigating the future impact of what's hidden deep inside all of us David Ewing Duncan takes "guinea pig" journalism to the cutting edge of science, building on award-winning articles he wrote for Wired and National Geographic, in which he was tested for hundreds of chemicals and genes associated with disease, emotions, and other traits. Expanding on these tests, he examines his genes, environment, brain, and body,

exploring what they reveal about his and his family's future health, traits, and ancestry, as well as the profound impact of this new self-knowledge on what it means to be human. David Ewing Duncan (San Francisco, CA) is the Chief Correspondent of public radio's Biotech Nation and a frequent commentator on NPR's Morning Edition. He is a contributing editor to Portfolio, Discover, and Wired and a columnist for Portfolio. His books include the international bestseller *Calendar: Humanity's Epic Struggle to Determine a True and Accurate Year* (978-0-380-79324-2). He is a former special producer and correspondent for ABC's Nightline, and appears regularly on CNN and programs such as Today and Good Morning America. *Time in Early Modern Islam* Stephen P. Blake 2013-02-11 The prophet Muhammad and the early Islamic community radically redefined the concept of time that they had inherited from earlier religions' beliefs and practices. This new

temporal system, based on a lunar calendar and era, was complex and required sophistication and accuracy. From the ninth to the sixteenth centuries, it was the Muslim astronomers of the Ottoman, Safavid and Mughal empires who were responsible for the major advances in mathematics, astronomy and astrology. This fascinating study compares the Islamic concept of time, and its historical and cultural significance, across these three great empires. Each empire, while mindful of earlier models, created a new temporal system, fashioning a new solar calendar and era and a new round of rituals and ceremonies from the cultural resources at hand. This book contributes to our understanding of the Muslim temporal system and our appreciation of the influence of Islamic science on the Western world.

The Tiger in the House Carl Van Vechten 1921

Timelines of Everything DK 2018-10-30 Explore 13 billion

years of history in the comfort of your own home! Journey through time and discover how some of the world's greatest events unfolded. From the Big Bang all the way through to the digital age, this incredible visual encyclopedia for children shows you just about everything that has ever happened in history. Witness history come alive as you travel through more than 130 stunning timelines. Packed with fantastic photographs and illustrations, along with informative text and fun facts. The history book covers the rise and fall of empires to ground-breaking scientific breakthroughs and inventions that changed our lives. This educational book is an imaginative way of illustrating world history for children age 8 and over. Throughout the pages, your child will get to meet the most bloodthirsty pirates of all time and discover what happened during the storming of the Bastille. It's a fantastic book for young readers with a natural curiosity about history around the world.

Find your place in the world and understand where you fit in. Whether you want to discover the history of cinema, fashion, aviation, or espionage. There is something for everyone in this glorious guide through global history! The History of Everything... Ever! This fascinating reference book tells the story of a diverse range of subjects throughout history in an easily digested graphic format! After your kids dive into this book, you'll never hear them use the words "history" and "boring" in the same sentence again. Take a trip back in time! This history book covers the following eras:

- Prehistory: Before 3000 BCE
- The Ancient World: 3000 BCE - 500 CE
- The Medieval World: 500 - 1450
- The Age of Exploration: 1450 - 1750
- The Age of Revolution: 1750 - 1914
- The Modern World: After 1914

The Book of Chilam Balam of Chumayel Ralph Loveland Roys 1934

Go.AI (Geopolitics of Artificial Intelligence) Abishur Prakash 2018-10 In July, 2018, one of

the biggest developments since World War II took place: China revealed that it was developing artificial intelligence (AI) to create foreign policy. Think about that for a second. In the future, if the world wants to understand what China will do on the world stage, it will have to understand how China's AI thinks. What China is doing is one part of a much bigger picture. All over the world, countries are deploying AI in powerful ways. In Russia, AI is detecting social unrest. In Japan, AI is helping police predict crime. In the United Arab Emirates, AI is deciding who can enter the country. As countries deploy AI, it could change how the world operates. As AI enters the picture, the balance of power around the world could change. AI could lead to the next alliances or the next conflicts. From the mind of Abishur Prakash, the world's leading geopolitical futurist and author of Next Geopolitics: Volume One and Two, comes the first book to examine how AI could transform geopolitics. Building

on more than 6 months of research, this book paints 12 groundbreaking scenarios of how AI could take geopolitics in a new direction. By looking at areas like ethics, trade and bias, this book goes where no other professor, pundit or publication has gone before. This book will guide leaders, visionaries, investors and policy makers through a world of geopolitics that has no precedent, where for the first time, countries will compete and clash over a technology that everyone wants but nobody fully understands.

Masterminds David Ewing Duncan 2009-10-06 James Watson, J. Craig Venter, Francis Collins, Cynthia Kenyon . . . you may not know them, but you should. They are the masterminds of genetics and biotechnology who want you to live to be 150 years old, to regenerate your heart and brain, to create synthetic life. For better or worse, they are about to alter life on earth forever. Award-winning journalist David Ewing Duncan tells the remarkable stories of

cutting-edge bioscientists, revealing their quirky, uniquely fascinating, sometimes vaguely unsettling personas as a means to understand their science and the astonishing implications of their work. This book seamlessly combines myth, biography, scholarship, and wit that poses the all-important question: Can we actually trust these masterminds?

Toilet: How It Works David Macaulay 2015-04-14 A celebrated author-illustrator brings his acclaimed voice and style to a high-interest nonfiction book about the complex inner-workings of one of the most familiar objects in our lives, the toilet.

Simultaneous.

The New Darwin J. Craig Venter 2020-04-02

[The Man who Loved Only Numbers](#) Paul Hoffman 1999

The biography of a mathematical genius. Paul Erdos was the most prolific pure mathematician in history and, arguably, the strangest too. 'A mathematical genius of the first order, Paul Erdos was totally obsessed with his

subject -- he thought and wrote mathematics for nineteen hours a day until he died. He travelled constantly, living out of a plastic bag and had no interest in food, sex, companionship, art -- all that is usually indispensable to a human life. Paul Hoffman, in this marvellous biography, gives us a vivid and strangely moving portrait of this singular creature, one that brings out not only Erdos's genius and his oddness, but his warmth and sense of fun, the joyfulness of his strange life.' Oliver Sacks For six decades Erdos had no job, no hobbies, no wife, no home; he never learnt to cook, do laundry, drive a car and died a virgin. Instead he travelled the world with his mother in tow, arriving at the doorstep of esteemed mathematicians declaring 'My brain is open'. He travelled until his death at 83, racing across four continents to prove as many theorems as possible, fuelled by a diet of espresso and amphetamines. With more than 1,500 papers written or co-written,

Beautiful Trouble Andrew Boyd
2013-05-01 Banksy, the Yes
Men, Gandhi, Starhawk: the
accumulated wisdom of
decades of creative protest is
now in the hands of the next
generation of change-makers,
thanks to *Beautiful Trouble*.
Sophisticated enough for
veteran activists, accessible
enough for newbies, this
compact pocket edition of the
bestselling *Beautiful Trouble* is
a book that's both handy and
inexpensive. Showcasing the
synergies between artistic
imagination and shrewd
political strategy, this
generously illustrated volume
can easily be slipped into your
pocket as you head out to the
streets. This is for everyone
who longs for a more beautiful,
more just, more livable world -
and wants to know how to get
there. Includes a new
introduction by the editors.
Contributors include: Celia
Alario • Andy Bichlbaum •
Nadine Bloch • L. M. Bogad •
Mike Bonnano • Andrew Boyd
• Kevin Buckland • Doyle
Canning • Samantha Corbin •
Stephen Duncombe • Simon

Enoch • Janice Fine • Lisa
Fithian • Arun Gupta • Sarah
Jaffe • John Jordan • Stephen
Lerner • Zack Malitz • Nancy
L. Mancias • Dave Oswald
Mitchell • Tracey Mitchell •
Mark Read • Patrick
Reinsborough • Joshua Kahn
Russell • Nathan Schneider •
John Sellers • Matthew
Skomarovsky • Jonathan
Matthew Smucker • Starhawk
• Eric Stoner • Harsha Walia
Superlative MATTHEW D.
LAPLANTE 2019-04-30 2019
Foreword Indie Silver Award
Winner for Science Welcome to
the biggest, fastest, deadliest
science book you'll ever read.
The world's largest land
mammal could help us end
cancer. The fastest bird is
showing us how to solve a
century-old engineering
mystery. The oldest tree is
giving us insights into climate
change. The loudest whale is
offering clues about the impact
of solar storms. For a long
time, scientists ignored
superlative life forms as
outliers. Increasingly, though,
researchers are coming to see
great value in studying plants

and animals that exist on the outermost edges of the bell curve. As it turns out, there's a lot of value in paying close attention to the "oddballs" nature has to offer. Go for a swim with a ghost shark, the slowest-evolving creature known to humankind, which is teaching us new ways to think about immunity. Get to know the axolotl, which has the longest-known genome and may hold the secret to cellular regeneration. Learn about *Monorhaphis chuni*, the oldest discovered animal, which is providing insights into the connection between our terrestrial and aquatic worlds. Superlative is the story of extreme evolution, and what we can learn from it about ourselves, our planet, and the cosmos. It's a tale of crazy-fast cheetahs and super-strong beetles, of microbacteria and enormous plants, of whip-smart dolphins and killer snakes. This book will inspire you to change the way you think about the world and your relationship to everything in it.

Viral Matt Ridley 2021-11-16

"Chan and Ridley write with an urgency...that inspires gripping depictions of what viruses are, how infectious-disease laboratories work and wonderfully lucid descriptions of bats. . . . They powerfully recount how dangerous pathogens can both leak from a lab and emerge in nature."

(New York Times Book Review)

Understanding how Covid-19 started is crucial for the future of humankind. *Viral* is the most incisive and authoritative book about the search for the source of the virus. A new virus descended on the human species in 2019 wreaking unprecedented havoc. Finding out where it came from and how it first jumped into people is an urgent priority, but early expectations that this would prove an easy question to answer have been dashed. Nearly two years into the pandemic, the crucial mystery of the origin of SARS-CoV-2 is not only unresolved but has deepened. In this uniquely insightful book, a scientist and a writer join forces to try to get to the bottom of how a virus

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whose closest relations live in bats in subtropical southern China somehow managed to begin spreading among people more than 1,500 kilometres away in the city of Wuhan. They grapple with the baffling fact that the virus left none of the expected traces that such outbreaks usually create: no infected market animals or wildlife, no chains of early cases in travellers to the city, no smouldering epidemic in a rural area, no rapid adaptation of the virus to its new host—human beings. To try to solve this pressing mystery, *Viral* delves deep into the events of 2019 leading up to 2021, the details of what went on in animal markets and virology laboratories, the records and data hidden from sight within archived Chinese theses and websites, and the clues that can be coaxed from the very text of the virus's own genetic code. The result is a gripping detective story that takes the reader deeper and deeper into a metaphorical cave of mystery. One by one the authors explore promising

tunnels only to show that they are blind alleys, until, miles beneath the surface, they find themselves tantalisingly close to a shaft that leads to the light.

Hernando de Soto David Ewing Duncan 1997 "An admirable tour de force that will need to be consulted by future biographers of the Spanish conquerer. Impeccable scholarship and documentation"--*Handbook of Latin American Studies*, v. 58.

The Heart of Philosophy
Jacob Needleman 2003-08-25
Philosophy as it is frequently taught in classrooms bears little relation to the impassioned and immensely practical search for self-knowledge conducted by not only its ancient avatars but also by men and woman who seek after truth today. In *The Heart of the Philosophy*, Jacob Needleman provides a "user's guide" for those who would take philosophy seriously enough to understand its life-transforming qualities.

Calendar of the Roman Republic Agnes Kirsopp

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Michels 2015-12-08 This book reconstructs the pre-Julian calendar of Rome on the basis of epigraphical and literary evidence, and analyzes its relation to the solar and lunar years. Mrs. Michels shows how the varied contents of the calendar were related to the political as well as to the religious life of Rome of the first century B.C. She traces the history of the calendar back to the fifth century, indicating the stages by which a single list of festivals may have developed into the complex document of the late republic. The Roman method of intercalation, the character of the days, and the history of the *trinum nundinum* are presented in appendices. Originally published in 1967. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while

presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.

Empires of Time Anthony F. Aveni 2000 Humanity has always felt a powerful need to impose scale and order on that most elusive and transient of elements: time. But what ends do our clocks and calendars really serve?

The Calendar David Ewing Duncan 2003-10 On Oct. 1, 1949, Mao Zedong declared that China would follow the Gregorian calendar. For the first time the entire world agreed what the date was. Here is the first complete history of the calendar, with information about science, religion, superstition & politics of many ages. Julius Caesar attempted to impose a unified calendar, but he could not calculate exactly the length of the year. His Julian calendar

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gained time over the true solar year, leading to calls for reform during the Middle Ages. This caused all manner of mayhem as between 10 & 13 days were removed at a stroke, & it was 500 years before Europe was in synch again. The story of the calendar's reckoning is a tale of human will, vanity, experimentation & endeavor.

From Cape to Cairo David Ewing Duncan 1989 The narrative of a young man's trek by bicycle up the length of Africa from Cape Town to Cairo.

The Story of Clocks and Calendars Betsy Maestro 2004-11-02 Travel through time with the maestros as they explore the amazing history of timekeeping! Did you know that there is more than one calendar? While the most commonly used calendar was on the year 2000, the Jewish calendar said it was the year 5760, while the Muslim calendar said 1420 and the Chinese calendar said 4698. Why do these differences exist? How did ancient civilizations keep track of time? When and

how were clocks first invented? Find answers to all these questions and more in this incredible trip through history. *The Calendar* David Ewing Duncan 1999

About Time: A History of Civilization in Twelve Clocks

David Rooney 2021-08-17 One of Smithsonian Magazine's Ten Best History Books of 2021 A captivating, surprising history of timekeeping and how it has shaped our world. For thousands of years, people of all cultures have made and used clocks, from the city sundials of ancient Rome to the medieval water clocks of imperial China, hourglasses fomenting revolution in the Middle Ages, the Stock Exchange clock of Amsterdam in 1611, Enlightenment observatories in India, and the high-precision clocks circling the Earth on a fleet of GPS satellites that have been launched since 1978. Clocks have helped us navigate the world and build empires, and have even taken us to the brink of destruction. Elites have used them to wield power, make

money, govern citizens, and control lives—and sometimes the people have used them to fight back. Through the stories of twelve clocks, *About Time* brings pivotal moments from the past vividly to life.

Historian and lifelong clock enthusiast David Rooney takes us from the unveiling of al-Jazari's castle clock in 1206, in present-day Turkey; to the Cape of Good Hope observatory at the southern tip of Africa, where nineteenth-century British government astronomers moved the gears of empire with a time ball and a gun; to the burial of a plutonium clock now sealed beneath a public park in Osaka, where it will keep time for 5,000 years. Rooney shows, through these artifacts, how time has been imagined, politicized, and weaponized over the centuries—and how it might bring peace. Ultimately, he writes, the technical history of horology is only the start of the story. A history of clocks is a history of civilization.

A Philosopher on Wall Street David Ewing Duncan

2021-09-14 An astonishing tale of Wall Street and the explosion of new life-science technologies and other industries of the future as told by one of the most creative dealmakers of the past 60 years. When Fred Frank arrived on Wall Street in 1958, he became a key member of a small, whip-smart cadre of young financiers who began challenging the stodgy, risk-averse scions of old-world investment banking. He also became the first banker to specialize in biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and health care services. Frank's perpetual search for the new-- pioneering technologies and innovative business models-- has transformed our world. *A Philosopher on Wall Street* is an intriguing tale of * a man who was a force of verve and ingenuity on Wall Street, who built and nurtured new industries that have impacted everyone; * Wall Street and its history since the late 1950s, the surprisingly fascinating story of how high technology in America was capitalized, and

the formation and meteoric rise of the pharma and biotech industries; * the best and worst of Wall Street over the past sixty years, and thoughts about the future of how to fund innovation to benefit both people and the bottom line * colorful stories from top innovators, scientists, executives, and investors about deals, intrigue, genius, booms and busts. This is the story of one of the most creative dealmakers of the past sixty years, a master artist of finance whose erudition and grace helped shape our world, who has always believed that inspired science, entrepreneurship, and investing are the keys to a better future.

The Quest for Artificial Intelligence Nils J. Nilsson
2009-10-30 Artificial intelligence (AI) is a field within computer science that is attempting to build enhanced intelligence into computer systems. This book traces the history of the subject, from the early dreams of eighteenth-century (and earlier) pioneers

to the more successful work of today's AI engineers. AI is becoming more and more a part of everyone's life. The technology is already embedded in face-recognizing cameras, speech-recognition software, Internet search engines, and health-care robots, among other applications. The book's many diagrams and easy-to-understand descriptions of AI programs will help the casual reader gain an understanding of how these and other AI systems actually work. Its thorough (but unobtrusive) end-of-chapter notes containing citations to important source materials will be of great use to AI scholars and researchers. This book promises to be the definitive history of a field that has captivated the imaginations of scientists, philosophers, and writers for centuries.

The History of Time: A Very Short Introduction Leofranc Holford-Strevens
2005-08-11 Why do we measure time in the way that we do? Why is a week seven days long? At what point

did minutes and seconds come into being? Why are some calendars lunar and some solar? The organisation of time into hours, days, months and years seems immutable and universal, but is actually far more artificial than most people realise. The French Revolution resulted in a restructuring of the French calendar, and the Soviet Union experimented with five and then six-day weeks. Leofranc Holford-Strevens explores these questions using a range of fascinating examples from Ancient Rome and Julius Caesar's imposition of the Leap Year, to the 1920s' project for a fixed Easter. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

My Life as an Experiment A. J. Jacobs 2009-09-08 A collection of A.J. Jacobs's hilarious adventures as a human guinea pig, including "My Outsourced Life," "The Truth About Nakedness," and a never-before-published essay. One man. Ten extraordinary quests. Bestselling author and human guinea pig A.J. Jacobs puts his life to the test and reports on the surprising and entertaining results. He goes undercover as a woman, lives by George Washington's moral code, and impersonates a movie star. He practices "radical honesty," brushes his teeth with the world's most rational toothpaste, and outsources every part of his life to India—including reading bedtime stories to his kids. And in a new adventure, Jacobs undergoes scientific testing to determine how he can put his wife through these and other life-altering experiments—one of which involves public nudity. Filled with humor and wisdom, *My Life as an Experiment* will immerse you in eye-opening situations and change the way

you think about the big issues of our time—from love and work to national politics and breakfast cereal.

Talking to Robots David Ewing Duncan 2019-07-16
What robot and AI systems are being built and imagined right now? What do they say about us, their creators? Will they usher in a fantastic new future, or destroy us? What do some of our greatest thinkers, from physicist Brian Greene and futurist Kevin Kelly to inventor Dean Kamen, geneticist George Church, and filmmaker Tiffany Shlain, anticipate for our human-robot future? For even as robots and AI intrigue us and make us anxious about the future, our fascination with robots has always been about more than the potential of the technology - it's also about what robots tell us about being human. From present-day Facebook and Amazon bots to near-future 'intimacy' bots and 'the robot that stole my job' bots, bestselling American popular science writer David Ewing Duncan's *Talking to Robots* is a wonderfully

entertaining and insightful guide to possible future scenarios about robots, both real and imagined. These scenarios are informed by interviews with actual engineers, scientists, artists, philosophers, futurists and others, who share with us their ideas, hopes and fears about robots. In the future, we will all remember when the robots truly arrived. Perhaps a robot surgeon saved your child's life, or maybe your inaugural robot moment will be more banal, when you realised with relief that the machines had taken over all the tasks you used to hate - taking out the rubbish, changing nappies, paying bills . . . Perhaps your recollection will be less benign, a memory of when a robot turned against you: the robot that threatened to seize your assets over a tax dispute. You might also remember when the robots began campaigning for equal rights with humans, and for an end to robot slavery, abuse and exploitation. Or when robots became so smart that they became our benign overlords,

treating us like cute and not very bright pets. Or when the robots grew tired of us and decided to destroy us, turning our own robo-powered weapons of mass destruction against us. Further into the future we will remember when robots became organic, created in a lab from living tissue to look and be just like us, only better and more resilient. Even further in the future, we will recall when we first had the option of becoming robots ourselves, by downloading our minds into organic-engineered beings that could theoretically live forever. And yet . . . will we feel that something is missing as the millennia pass? Will we grow weary of being robots, invulnerable and immortal? Mostly we love our technology as it whisks us across and over continents and oceans at 35,000 feet, or summons us rides in someone else's Prius or connects us online to long-lost friends. Yet deep down, many of us fear that a robo-Apocalypse is all too possible. We seem obsessed with robots, as we embrace contrasting

visions of robo-utopia and robo-dystopia that titillate, bring hope and scare the hell out of us.

[Calendars in Antiquity](#) Sacha Stern 2012-09-06 Calendars were at the heart of ancient culture and society, and were far more than just technical, time-keeping devices.

[Calendars in Antiquity](#) offers a comprehensive study of the calendars of ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Persia, Greece, Rome, Gaul, and all other parts of the Mediterranean and the Near East, from the origins up to and including Jewish and Christian calendars in late Antiquity. In this volume, Stern sheds light on the political context in which ancient calendars were designed and managed. Set and controlled by political rulers, calendars served as expressions of political power, as mechanisms of social control, and sometimes as assertions of political independence, or even of sub-culture and dissidence. While ancient calendars varied widely, they all shared a

common history, evolving on the whole from flexible, lunar calendars to fixed, solar schemes. The Egyptian calendar played an important role in this process, leading most notably to the institution of the Julian calendar in Rome, the forerunner of our modern Gregorian calendar. Stern argues that this common, evolutionary trajectory was not the result of scientific or technical progress. It was rather the result of major political and social changes that transformed the ancient world, with the formation of the great Near Eastern empires and then the Hellenistic and Roman Empires from the first millennium BC to late Antiquity. The institution of standard, fixed calendars served the administrative needs of these great empires but also contributed to their cultural cohesion.

The Calendar in

Revolutionary France Sanja Perovic 2012-08-27 One of the most unusual decisions of the leaders of the French Revolution - and one that had

immense practical as well as symbolic impact - was to abandon customarily-accepted ways of calculating date and time to create a Revolutionary calendar. The experiment lasted from 1793 to 1805, and prompted all sorts of questions about the nature of time, ways of measuring it and its relationship to individual, community, communication and creative life. This study traces the course of the Revolutionary Calendar, from its cultural origins to its decline and fall. Tracing the parallel stories of the calendar and the literary genius of its creator, Sylvain Maréchal, from the Enlightenment to the Napoleonic era, Sanja Perovic reconsiders the status of the French Revolution as the purported 'origin' of modernity, the modern experience of time, and the relationship between the imagination and political action.

Greek Science After Aristotle G E R Lloyd

2013-08-31 In his previous volume in this series, *Early Greek Science: Thales to*

Aristotle, G. E. R. Lloyd pointed out that although there is no exact equivalent to our term 'science' in Greek, Western science may still be said to originate with the Greeks. In this second volume, *Greek Science after Aristotle*, the author continues his discussion of the fundamental Greek contributions to science, drawing on the richer literary and archaeological sources for the period after Aristotle. Particular attention is paid to the Greeks' conception of the inquiries they were engaged in, and to the interrelations of science and technology. In the first part of the book the author considers the two hundred years after the death of Aristotle, devoting separate chapters to mathematics, astronomy and biology. He goes on to deal with Ptolemy and Galen and concludes with a discussion of later writers and of the problems raised by the question of the decline of ancient science.

Calendar: David Ewing Duncan 1999-06-01 The adventure spans the world

from Stonehenge to astronomically aligned pyramids at Giza, from Mayan observatories at Chichen Itza to the atomic clock in Washington, the world's official timekeeper since the 1960s. We visit cultures from Vedic India and Cleopatra's Egypt to Byzantium and the Elizabethan court; and meet an impressive cast of historic personages from Julius Caesar to Omar Khayyam, and giants of science from Galileo and Copernicus to Stephen Hawking. Our present calendar system predates the invention of the telescope, the mechanical clock, and the concept of zero and its development is one of the great untold stories of science and history. How did Pope Gregory set right a calendar which was in error by at least ten lull days? What did time mean to a farmer on the Rhine in 800 A.D.? What was daily life like in the Middle Ages, when the general population reckoned births and marriages by seasons, wars, kings' reigns, and saints' days? In short, how did the world The adventure

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spans the world from Stonehenge to astronomically aligned pyramids at Giza, from Mayan observatories at Chichen Itza to the atomic clock in Washington, the world's official timekeeper since the 1960s. We visit cultures from Vedic India and Cleopatra's Egypt to Byzantium and the Elizabethan court; and meet an impressive cast of historic personages from Julius Caesar to Omar Khayyam, and giants of science from Galileo and Copernicus to Stephen Hawking. Our present calendar system predates the invention of the telescope, the mechanical clock, and the concept of zero and its development is one of the great untold stories of science and history. How did Pope Gregory set right a calendar which was in error by at least ten lull days? What did time mean to a farmer on the Rhine in 800 A.D.? What was daily life like in the Middle Ages, when the general population reckoned births and marriages by seasons, wars, kings' reigns, and saints' days?

Mapping Time Edward Graham Richards 1998 History of calendars. The Millenium - do we have the correct date? Why do we celebrate Easter Sunday when we do? Find out in this book.

English as a Global

Language David Crystal 2012-03-29 David Crystal's classic English as a Global Language considers the history, present status and future of the English language, focusing on its role as the leading international language. English has been deemed the most 'successful' language ever, with 1500 million speakers internationally, presenting a difficult task to those who wish to investigate it in its entirety. However, Crystal explores the subject in a measured but engaging way, always backing up observations with facts and figures. Written in a detailed and fascinating manner, this is a book written by an expert both for specialists in the subject and for general readers interested in the English language.

Masterminds David Ewing

Duncan 2009-10-06 James Watson, J. Craig Venter, Francis Collins, Cynthia Kenyon . . . you may not know them, but you should. They are the masterminds of genetics and biotechnology who want you to live to be 150 years old, to regenerate your heart and brain, to create synthetic life. For better or worse, they are about to alter life on earth forever. Award-winning journalist David Ewing Duncan tells the remarkable stories of cutting-edge bioscientists, revealing their quirky, uniquely fascinating, sometimes vaguely unsettling personas as a means

to understand their science and the astonishing implications of their work. This book seamlessly combines myth, biography, scholarship, and wit that poses the all-important question: Can we actually trust these masterminds?

Pedaling the Ends of the Earth David Duncan 1985
Recounts the adventures of four young American men who bicycled around the world, in thirteen months traveling through nineteen countries, across four continents and covering fourteen thousand miles