

New Titles

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specific set of challenges posed by each virus and recreating the frustration of those researchers who work with novel virus-related phenomena.

In describing each virus and its related set of challenges, Zimmer keeps the reader hooked by using analogy, poetic turns of phrase, and familiar imagery. For example, in the chapter on papillomaviruses, Zimmer invokes the jackelope—a mythical rabbit with antelope horns sprouting from its head. Anyone who has taken a road trip in the western United States and perused the junk for sale at the gift shops along the way will recognize this cultural icon. But wait, there is a connection: Papillomavirus must keep generating infected cells at the same rate that old skin cells are sloughed off—a situation Zimmer likens to a treadmill. But the virus will often “outrun” its host, leading to hardened growths or warts. So, as a result of its specific mode of replication, papillomavirus can quite literally cause rabbits to grow horn-like protuberances from their heads—real-life jackelopes. And with that, I am mesmerized: How many real, scientific explanations are hiding behind other popular myths? And what other tricks do viruses play on their hosts?

Because *A Planet of Viruses* targets the general public, experts in the field might find some of the descriptions overly simplistic, although I applaud Zimmer for including so much complexity in his streamlined explanations. And because historical perspective is not typically emphasized in the trenches of cutting-edge research, even experts may appreciate the interesting backstories of the viral discoveries presented in the book. My biggest complaint is the surprisingly high number of typographical errors for a volume already in print, but this did not detract from my enjoyment.

Overall, Zimmer has done a fantastic job condensing a huge volume of viral information into bite-size nuggets that whet the appetite for more, and a handy reference section provides the reader with direction on where to get their next helping. *A Planet of Viruses* will serve as an excellent supplementary

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text in undergraduate microbiology or virology courses (I plan to use it in my virology course this fall) or as an engaging introduction for anyone curious about the world of viruses.

KURT WILLIAMSON

Kurt Williamson (kewilliamson@wm.edu) is an assistant professor of biology at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.

NEW TITLES

Apoptosis: Physiology and Pathology.

John C. Reed and Douglas R. Green, eds. Cambridge University Press, 2011. 472 pp., illus. \$125.00 (ISBN 9780521886567 cloth).

Applied Urban Ecology: A Global Framework.

Matthias Richter and Ulrike Weiland, eds. Wiley, 2011. 240 pp., illus. \$79.95 (ISBN 9781444333404 paper).

The Biolinguistic Enterprise: New Perspectives on the Evolution and Nature of the Human Language Faculty.

Anna Maria Di Sciullo and Cedric Boeckx, eds. Oxford University Press, 2011. 416 pp., illus. \$55.00 (ISBN 9780199553280 paper).

Birds of North America and Greenland.

Norman Arlott. Princeton University Press, 2011. 224 pp., illus. \$15.95 (ISBN 9780691151403 paper).

Blue Revolution: Unmaking America's Water Crisis.

Cynthia Barnett. Beacon Press, 2011. 296 pp., illus. \$26.95 (ISBN 9780807003176 cloth).

Conservation, Ecology, and Management of Catfish: The Second International Symposium.

Paul H. Michaletz and Vincent H. Travnichek, eds. American Fisheries Society, 2011. 780 pp., illus. \$79.00 (ISBN 9781934874257 cloth).

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Effective Learning in the Life Sciences: How Students Can Achieve Their Full Potential. David Adams. Wiley, 2011. 288 pp., illus. \$79.95 (ISBN 9780470661574 paper).

Food Policy for Developing Countries: The Role of Government in Global, National, and Local Food Systems. Per Pinstrup-Andersen and Derrill D. Watson II. Cornell University Press, 2011. 424 pp., illus. \$45.00 (ISBN 9780801448188 cloth).

Intelligent Tinkering: Bridging the Gap between Science and Practice. Robert J. Cabin. Island Press, 2011. 240 pp., illus. \$35.00 (ISBN 9781597269643 paper).

The Magic of Reality: How We Know What's Really True. Richard Dawkins. Simon and Schuster (Free Press), 2011. 272 pp., illus. \$29.99 (ISBN 9781439192818 cloth).

Phase Transitions. Ricard V. Solé. Princeton University Press, 2011. 264 pp., illus. \$35.00 (ISBN 9780691150758 paper).

Royal Entomological Society Book of British Insects. Peter C. Barnard. Wiley, 2011. 400 pp., illus. \$99.95 (ISBN 9781444332568 cloth).

Shifting Baselines: The Past and the Future of Ocean Fisheries. Jeremy B. C. Jackson, Karen E. Alexander, and Enric Sala, eds. Island Press,

2011. 284 pp., illus. \$35.00 (ISBN 9781610910019 paper).

Transylvanian Dinosaurs. David B. Weishampel and Coralia-Maria Jianu. Johns Hopkins University Press, 2011. 328 pp., illus. \$60.00 (ISBN 9781421400273 cloth).

Water and Sanitation Related Diseases and the Environment: Challenges, Interventions, and Preventive Measures. Janine M. H. Selendy, ed. Wiley, 2011. 552 pp., illus. \$139.95 (ISBN 9780470527856 cloth).

The World of Northern Evergreens (2nd ed). E. C. Pielou. Cornell University Press (Comstock), 2011. 168 pp., illus. \$19.95 (ISBN 9780801477409 paper).



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