



Mary Anning in adulthood. [British Museum of Natural History]

person of the early career of Mary Anning (1799–1847). Mary, the daughter of a cabinetmaker in Lyme Regis, was a fossil hunter, one of the first to make important finds in the Mesozoic strata of southern England. Cole gives us a fictional reconstruction of Mary as a person, her fascination with fossils and the problems involved in being different from other young women of her time and class: “The fossils are my livelihood, not just something to collect and study. It is somewhere between . . . the Lyme of my neighbors and the world of the geological gentry . . . that I must find a place for myself.” The story Cole tells is as accurate as limited historical information will allow. She gives Mary a modern-sounding narrative voice in which she relates the emotional ups and downs of her triumphs and difficulties. In spite of this wholly fictional aspect of the book, the story provides a realistic perspective on pre-Darwinian paleontology and its impact on the life of a provincial girl. More important, Cole gives her readers a lasting image of how intelligence, necessity, and determination combined to shape Mary Anning’s life and give her a significant place in the history of paleontology. The story will be especially interesting to young people who wonder about pursuing a career that conflicts with their upbringing. Although we have come a long way in nearly two centuries, readers will also realize that many young women of today face similar problems when they choose to pursue an interest in science.

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## Women in Science: Bibliographic Update

The 13 March 1992 “Women in Science” issue of *Science* included a listing (p. 1449) of books on that theme that have been reviewed in *Science* in recent years. Below is information about some more recent works.

### Books Reviewed

#### *Historical or biographical works*

- The Dynamic Genome: Barbara McClintock’s Ideas in the Century of Genetics**, Nina Fedoroff and David Botstein, Eds.; reviewed 259, 1206 (1993)  
**A Passion for Physics: The Story of a Woman Physicist**, Joan Freeman; reviewed 257, 1977 (1992)  
**To the Ends of the Earth: Women’s Search for Education in Medicine**, Thomas Neville Bonner; reviewed 257, 820 (1992)  
**A World Without Women: The Christian Clerical Culture of Western Science**, David F. Noble; reviewed 258, 829 (1992)

#### *Works concerned with a gendered perspective in research*

- Menstrual Health in Women’s Lives**, Alice J. Dan and Linda L. Lewis, Eds.; reviewed 259, 843 (1993)  
**Periods: From Menarche to Menopause**, Sharon Golub; reviewed 259, 843 (1993)  
**Whose Science? Whose Knowledge? Thinking from Women’s Lives**, Sandra Harding; reviewed 256, 863 (1992)

### Books Received

**American Women in Science Before the Civil War**. Elizabeth Wagner Reed. Published by the author, 400 Church St. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455. iv, 214 pp., illus. Spiral bound, \$12.

Brief biographies of 22 “women who published in science before 1861,” beginning with Elizabeth Cary Agassiz and ending with Emma Hart Willard, preceded by an essay on women as members and patrons of scientific bodies and as collectors, teachers, and artists.

**Biology and Feminism. A Dynamic Interaction**. Sue V. Rosser. Twayne, New York, 1992. xviii, 192 pp. \$26.95; paper, \$14.95. Impact of Feminism on the Arts and Sciences.

One of the first volumes in a series that will consider a variety of academic disciplines as related to feminism. The author proceeds from summaries of the history and current status of women in biology to critiques of research in organismal and in cellular and molecular biology and the natural sciences generally to a consideration of the possible effects of feminism on teaching and research in biology. A bibliographical essay by Faye Chadwell is appended.

**Brazzaville Beach**. William Boyd. Avon, New York, 1992. xvi, 320 pp. Paper, \$4.99. Reprint, 1990 ed.

A novel one of whose themes is a female primatologist’s discovery that the view of chimpanzee life on which her male mentor’s reputation and funding rest does not hold up.

**Nobel Prize Women in Science**. Their Lives, Struggles, and Momentous Discoveries. Sharon Bertsch McGrayne. Birch Lane (Carol), New York, 1993. xii, 419 pp., illus. \$26.95.

Biographical essays on 14 Nobelists, categorized as “first generation pioneers” (Marie Curie, Lise Meitner, Emmy Noether), “second generation” (alphabetically from Gerty Cori to Rosalyn Yalow), and “the new generation” (Jocelyn Bell Burnell). Informal photographs and information from interviews with living prize-winners are included.

**Secrets of Life, Secrets of Death**. Essays on Language, Gender and Science. Evelyn Fox Keller. Routledge, New York, 1992. x, 195 pp. \$49.95; paper, \$15.95.

Nine essays, mostly reprinted from various sources and more explicitly concerned with the nature of scientific knowledge generally than with gender, by the author of a previous collection entitled *Reflections on Gender and Science*.