

full-time sexual receptivity no doubt contributed significantly to the development of long-term male-female relationships, *and so forth*" (italics mine).

The content of the book is, as expected, sweeping, and it is usually enjoyable to read. Much, however, is open to debate. The neuroethnology perspective is very entertaining, but the claims are often mechanistic, if not fundamentally backward. We are told repeatedly that some behavior emerged because of the development of some brain structure, as if chimpanzees were just waiting to write until they got the right software. The general approach of the book is melodramatically mechanistic, comprehensively accounting for everything from maternal love to stalking to story telling on an uncompromising neurologic basis. Much of the material overreaches the accepted level of scientific certainty without any indication to the naive reader about the extent of naked speculation. In fact, there is almost no speculative leap too dangerous to intimidate the author. Finally, I believe that much of the material is forced into confirmations of the author's larger theoretic claims, which renders that material only marginally acceptable as a summation of current best knowledge. In particular, I disagree with almost everything in the sections on language, right hemisphere cognitive functions, and head injury.

The first two paragraphs on page 696 under "Caveats: PTA and long-term disorders" capture many of the problems with this book. The first paragraph confuses selective vulnerability of some neural structures to particular insults with predilection to injury because of mechanical factors unrelated to unique physiologic properties of different brain regions. Then we read that, "Because of this (either selective vulnerability or predilection to injury), PTA and the time period in which (for which?) one is rendered unconscious should only be used as a general indicant of brain injury severity, for what appears to be a mild injury to one part of the brain may in fact yield more severe long-term consequences than what appears to be a more significant injury involving yet a different portion of the cerebrum." We have unclear intention, muddled syntax, and no references for the specific claim.

The book reminds me, finally, of my college roommate 30 years ago: always entertaining, often unreliable, relentlessly ambitious, but generally too disorganized to succeed. Taken with sufficient skepticism, it makes for enjoyable reading at a good price.

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## Corrections

The article "Migraine association and linkage studies of an endothelial nitric oxide synthase (NOS3) gene polymorphism" by Griffith et al. (1997;49:614-617) cited the credentials of P.J. Brimage, FRACP, incorrectly.

Reference 32 was inadvertently omitted from the article "Ropinirole for the treatment of early Parkinson's disease" by Adler et al. (1997;49:393-399). It should read: 32. Jenner P, Pearce RKB, Banerji T, Desai NB, Jackson MJ, Marsden CD. A comparison of ropinirole, L-dopa, and bromocriptine treatment on the development of dyskinesia in MPTP treated common marmosets. *Neurology* 1997;48(suppl 2):A119.

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## Corrections

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