

**EISNER, THOMAS.** For Love of Insects. Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts; November 2003; xi + 448 pp; with a Foreword by Edward O. Wilson; illus.; bibliog.; index; LC ; ISBN 0-674-01181-3; \$29.95. Thomas Eisner's odyssey began 45 years ago with investigations into beetles that spray hot defensive chemicals, and it continues to this day after scores of extraordinary discoveries, including moths that ooze foam when handled, termites that squirt ants with sticky fluids, and beetle larvae that carry their feces on their backs. Sound like science fiction? These stories are real. And they are told by the remarkable Cornell University scientist who documented them. Eisner and his collaborators seek to understand how insects and other arthropods use chemicals to defend themselves against predators, and how some predators succeed in eating them anyway. Scientifically accurate and documented by a 22-page bibliography, this artfully written narrative of quest, discovery, and ingenious experimentation will intrigue the general reader and biologist alike. The numerous stories are grouped by common theme into 10 chapters. Recommended for public and academic libraries.

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*Library Journal*