

SPECIAL 40TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

DISCOVER

SCIENCE

THAT MATTERS

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020

OUR ROBOTIC FUTURE

HOW MACHINES ARE REDEFINING RESEARCH p.48

SUPER BOTS WILL SAVE YOUR LIFE p.40

The architecture of healing p.56

Electric cars make some noise p.66

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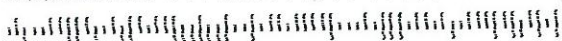
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How can we
be more
eco-friendly
in death?



30 Life After Death

Embalming, cremation and casket-making are far from eco-friendly. Some researchers want to return bodies to the earth naturally.

JOAN MEINERS

40 Superbots Save the Day

If you find yourself in a disaster, it might be machines that come to your rescue.

ALEX ORLANDO

48 Robot Scientists Are Coming

A small but growing crop of machines is learning to design and carry out its own experiments. How will this change the future of research?

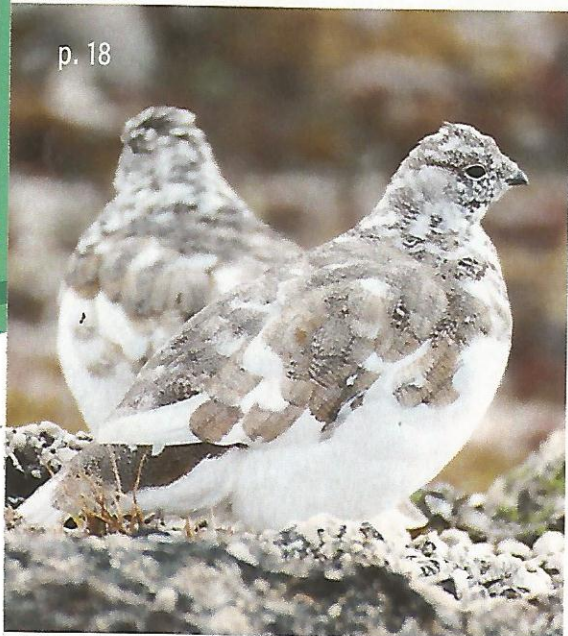
JENNIFER WALTER

56 The Architecture of Healing

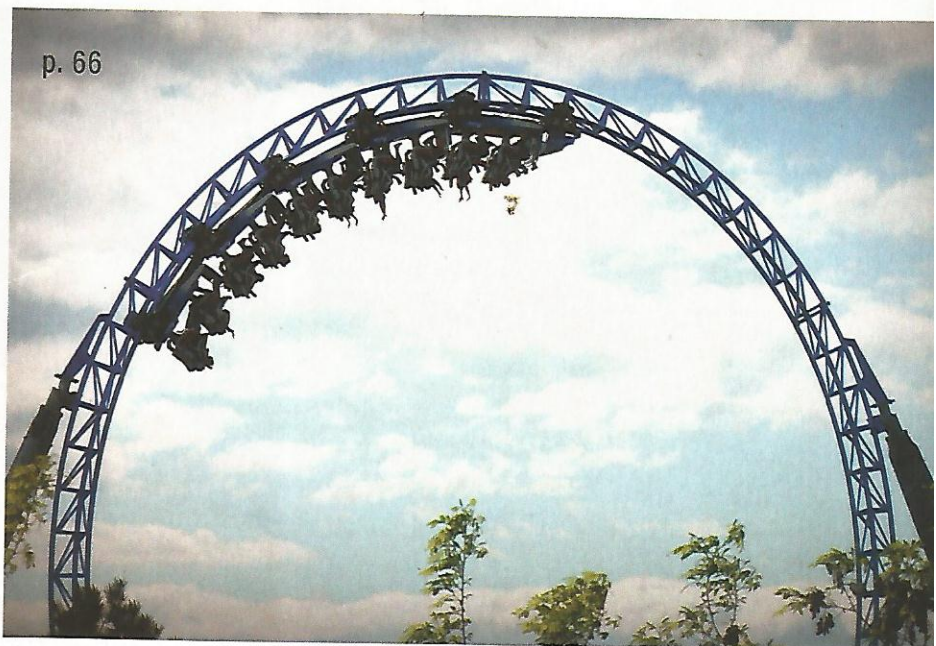
When it comes to hospitals, the right design can speed up recovery — or slow it.

EMILY ANTHES

p. 18



p. 66



COLUMNS & DEPARTMENTS

6 EDITOR'S NOTE

Science for the People

Celebrate 40 years of *Discover* magazine.

7 INBOX

Readers reflect on plastic bags, their environmental effects, and more.

HOT SCIENCE PAGE 9

A look back in time at the first issue of *Discover*, 40 years ago. Plus, the science of reopening during the pandemic, survival of the dumbest, what to read this month, and more.

22 VITAL SIGNS

One in a Million

A persistent fever after returning from Egypt usually means a tropical disease infection. For this toddler, it was just one of many red herrings.

AMITHA KALAICHANDRAN

26 ORIGIN STORY

An Athletic Evolution

To uncover the habits of ancient humans, scientists are studying modern sports stars.

BRIDGET ALEX

62 OUT THERE

A Census for the Stars

Astronomers gear up for another 10-year survey to figure out which telescope projects will make the cut.

YVETTE CENDES

66 TECH NOTE

Sound Off

Electric vehicles are notoriously quiet. But new laws are pushing automakers to experiment with unusual noises.

JACLYN TROP

70 PIECE OF MIND

The Mourning Mind

What happens in the brain when someone you love dies — and how to overcome it with time.

AMY PATUREL

74 20 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ...

Learning

Who's smarter — a human, a rat or the Amazing Learned Pig?

JONATHON KEATS