

# ALAN BURDICK

## AUTHOR

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- *Why Time Flies: A Mostly Scientific Investigation* (Simon & Schuster, Jan 2017)
- *Out of Eden: An Odyssey of Ecological Invasion* (Farrar Straus Giroux, 2005)

## EDITORIAL

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Staff Writer 2016-present  
Senior Editor 2012-2016  
*The New Yorker*  
Assigned and edited long-form reported features and essays for the print magazine. Editor of Elements, TNY's online science-and-tech blog.

Contributing Editor 2009-2011  
*The Week*  
Selected and wrote the stories for hi-impact weekly's science-and-health page.

Discover Magazine 2004-2007  
*Senior Editor*  
Generated, assigned, and edited cover stories, features, essays, and photo stories for award-winning monthly science magazine. Managed junior staff.

American Museum of Natural History 2000–2004  
*Editorial Producer & Senior Writer*  
Wrote and produced multimedia news features for Science Bulletins exhibits, which appear in AMNH halls, online, and in affiliated museums.

The New York Times Magazine 1993–1996  
*Story Editor*  
Generated, assigned, and edited cover stories, features, and essays.

The Sciences 1989–1993  
*Senior Editor, Associate Editor*  
Assigned, edited, and ghostwrote features and essays for award-winning bimonthly. Wrote short news stories. Edited book review.

## HONORS

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- John Simon Guggenheim Fellow (2007)
- National Book Award finalist (2005)
- Overseas Press Club award for environmental reporting (2005)
- New York Foundation for the Arts grant for nonfiction literature (2001)

## EDUCATION

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Stanford University  
• A.B. 1988, History and Philosophy of Science

## MAJOR PUBLICATIONS:

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### BOOKS

- *Why Time Flies: A Mostly Scientific Investigation* (Simon & Schuster, Jan. 2017)
- *Out of Eden: An Odyssey of Ecological Invasion* (Farrar Straus Giroux, 2005)

### FEATURES & ESSAYS

- “The Fake Publishers That Are Ruining Science,” *Newyorker.com* (March 22, 2017)
- “Can We Fix Daylight-Saving Time for Good?” *Newyorker.com* (March 12, 2017)
- “The Metaphorical Meaning of a Month Named Trump,” *Newyorker.com* (January 20, 2017)
- “The Many-Moons Theory,” *Newyorker.com* (January 9, 2017)
- “The Secret Life of Time,” *The New Yorker* (December 12, 2016)
- “An Exoplanet Too Far,” *Newyorker.com* (August 24, 2016)
- “The Kings of Seventeenth Place,” *Newyorker.com* (May 14, 2016)
- “Discovering Planet Nine,” *Newyorker.com* (January 20, 2016)
- “Slide Show: Secret Lives of the Serengeti,” *Newyorker.com* (June 9, 2015)
- “Germany 48, Argentina 15,” *Newyorker.com* (July 11, 2014)
- “Cheating the Beautiful Game,” *Newyorker.com* (June 16, 2014)
- “When Cicadas Fall in Love,” *Newyorker.com* (May 29, 2013)
- “Dung Beetles, Dancing to the Milky Way,” *Newyorker.com* (January 27, 2013)
- “Nietzsche at the Beach,” *Newyorker.com* (August 31, 2012)
- “Pole Vault: Steve Hooker’s Fear of Flying,” *Newyorker.com* (August 10, 2012)
- “GR8 Digital Soot! The data trail from our cell phones contains a treasure trove of digital information. Some of it could be lifesaving,” *OnEarth* (Spring 2012)
- “Moment, Magnified: Scientists are finding that the high-resolution panoramic photos known as GigaPan images can open up strange new worlds,” *OnEarth* (Winter 2011/12)
- “Kind of Blue: When freshwater meets saltwater, a power dynamic ensues. Blue energy aims to harness it,” *OnEarth* (Fall 2011)
- “End of the Night: Artificial illumination at night takes a toll on the natural world. We need to find a way to curb its effects,” *OnEarth* (Summer 2011)
- “Shine a Little Light: Nanotechnology shines a light on zooplankton and what may be the world’s largest migration—one that unfolds every day around the globe,” *OnEarth* (Spring 2011)
- “Power Plants: Infrared light, invisible to the human eye, may be an untapped source of solar energy,” *OnEarth* (Winter 2010/11)
- “Save the Moon! Lately the moon has started to look like both a natural marvel and a tantalizing morsel, rich with subsurface resources,” *OnEarth* (Fall 2010)
- “Into the Data Cloud: Gmail, Hulu, Pandora—cloud computing is handy and efficient, but can it also help the planet?” *OnEarth* (Summer 2010)
- “The (New) Web of Life: All the known creatures on Earth may soon be a click away,” *OnEarth* (Fall 2009)
- “The Middle of Nowhere: What Alaska’s tundra is teaching scientists about climate change,” *OnEarth* (Spring 2009)
- “Welcome to My Paperless World,” *OnEarth* (Fall 2008)
- “The Wonder Land of Socotra, Yemen,” *The New York Times T Style Magazine: Travel* (March 25, 2007)

- “The Future of Time: Can we increase productivity by revving up the neural pacemakers in the brain?” *Discover* (April 2006)
- “War of the Weeds: The invading aliens are already among us,” *The Los Angeles Times Commentary* (July 1, 2005)
- “The Truth About Invasive Species: How to stop worrying and learn to love ecological intruders,” *Discover* (May 2005)
- “When Nature Assaults Itself,” *The New York Times Op-Ed* (April 22, 2005)
- “Seeding the Universe: The search for life on Mars could be a bit complicated by the hitchhikers on our rovers,” *Discover* (October 2004)
- “Gross Anatomy: Technology makes cadavers an art form and dissection uncomfortably real,” *Discover* (March 2004)
- “Stopping Time: What can you do in a billionth of a billionth of a second?” *Discover* (June 2003)
- “Why I Love Her,” *Glamour* (February 2003)
- “Caught in Traffic: A synaptic detour from the boardwalk to the Great White Way,” *Natural History* (November 2002)
- “I Was DeNiro’s Leg: Tales from the parts-modeling industry,” *GQ* (July 2002)
- “Four Ears to the Ground: For an elephant, the foot may be a powerful listening device,” *Natural History* (April 2002)
- “Now Hear This: Listening back on a century of sound,” *Harper’s* (July 2001)
- “Victim of Geology: Whatever you do, don’t get started on fossils,” *Discover* (July 2001)
- “Here Comes the Sun: Get ready for space weather, the perfect foil for a new century’s ambitions,” *The New York Times Magazine* (February 4, 2001)
- “Name That Star! When our writer set out to hang his name upon a celestial body, he never imagined he would have to navigate such an earthbound bureaucracy,” *Discover* (February 2000)
- “The High Road on Cape Breton,” *New York Times Travel Section* (August 31, 1997)
- “Endless Bummer: In which the author goes to Hawaii, learns to surf, and encounters a sea monster,” *GQ* (June 1997)
- “Weather or Not,” *GQ* (December 1996)
- “The Meaning of Toast,” *The New York Times Magazine* (March 10, 1996)
- “Invasion of the Nature Snatchers: Will the brown tree snake, having infested Guam, ravage Hawaii? How alien species are flattening the world,” *The New York Times Magazine* (Nov 13, 1994)
- “Are You On The Bus? Students at the Audubon Expedition Institute are turned on by flora, fauna, and the state of Earth. But what really moves them is commitment,” *Outside* (March 1993)
- “The Last Cold-War Monument: Designing the ‘keep out’ sign for a nuclear-waste site,” *Harper’s* (August 1992)
- “Looking for the High Life,” *The Sciences* (May/June 1991)
- “Walden Pond: Restoring a Writer’s Place” *Grand Street* #37 (Autumn 1990)
- “Hype Tide,” *The New Republic* (June 12, 1989)

#### NEWS & IDEAS

- “The Lives They Lived: Joel Hedgpeth and Cadet Hand,” *The New York Times Magazine* (December 31, 2006)
- “Interview with Will Wright: The master of the computer ‘god game’ tackles alien life and dreams up a world that would make Darwin drool,” *Discover* (August 2006)
- “The Lives They Lived: Miriam Rothschild,” *The New York Times Magazine* (December 25, 2005)
- “How Did the Deer Cross the Road: The Ecology of Roadkill,” *Discover* (March 2004)

- “Socket To Me: The Biology of Batteries,” *Discover* (January 2004)
- “Brother Can You Spare 18¢: The Mathematics of Pocket Change,” *Discover* (October 2003)
- “A Farewell to Sprinklers: The Biology of Lawns,” *Discover* (July 2003)
- “Cement on the Half Shell: The Biochemistry of Glue,” *Discover* (February 2003)
- “The Voice of Tomorrow: The Mathematics of Artificial Speech,” *Discover* (January 2003)
- “Pssst! Sounds like a meteor: In the debate about whether or not meteors make noise, skeptics have had the upper hand—until now,” *Natural History* (June/July 2002)
- “Insect from the Underground: The London Tube is home to several novel species of mosquitoes,” *Natural History* (February 2001)
- “The Only Book You’ll Ever Need to Read,” *The New York Times Magazine* (June 11, 2000)
- “The Document That Can’t Be Forged,” *The New York Times Magazine* (June 11, 2000)
- “A Handmade Tale: An interview with claymation director Nick Park,” *The New York Times Magazine* (December 1, 1996)

#### REVIEWS

- “The Grail Bird: Hot on the trail of the ivory-billed woodpecker,” *The New York Times Book Review* (February 20, 2005)
- “Nature Noir: A park ranger’s patrol in the Sierra,” *The New York Times Book Review* (February 20, 2005)
- “Empire of Death: To the Aztecs, a good death was a violent death,” *Discover* (March 2003)
- “Techno Kingdom: Fast-forward to a digital world gone wild,” *Discover* (October 2002)
- “Kilimanjaro: To the Roof of Africa,” *Discover* (June 2002)
- “Sheaves of Grass: Pressed flowers abound in this library of garden delights,” *Discover* (May 2002)