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21W.777 The Science Essay
Spring 2008

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Homework #13

Due Tuesday 4/1

- 1) READ the sample Book Reviews I handed out in class Thursday 3/20. Prepare to lead a discussion of your assigned review: What do you notice about the way it's constructed, the way the author expresses his/her evaluation of the book, the main theme or idea of the review, the way the writer connects with readers..... DO carefully read all of the reviews, so that we can have a brisk and focused discussion of the Book review as a genre of writing.
- 2) READ or re-read Alan Lightman's "Prisoner of the Wired World"—we will spend part of class discussing this essay. I am especially interested in the ways you connect with Lightman and his ideas, and the ways you see him bringing readers into his rather personal discussion. Also pay attention to the structure of this essay, how it moves from the personal and particular to much larger themes.

SOME REMINDERS:

- The Revision of Essay 3 will be due April 4, which is a Friday. You can bring your revised essay, along with a cover sheet that I will provide and your original draft, to my office no later than 4:00.
- Proposals for Essay 5, the research essay on a topic of your choice, will be due April 15. If you haven't started thinking about your topic, start now—so that you'll have plenty of time to do both preliminary, poking around research, and the more focused research that you'll need when you've got your topic narrowed down.