

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
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Reviewers must deal with the book in question

When I started to review books, I was advised to use half to assess how well the author did. I am distressed to note that few of your reviewers follow these simple rules.

The worst recent example is Tim White's review (Books. December 29) of Lydia Monin and Andrew Gallimore. *The Devil's Garden: History of Landmines*.

White wrote a good essay on landmines- presumably a summary of the book - but not a single word deals explicitly with the book in question.

This is not only frustrating for readers, but also disappointing for the authors.

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