Spore-bearing fungal parasites emerge from the digested corpses of three bdelloid rotifers. These freshwater invertebrates (length <0.5 millimeters) present an evolutionary puzzle because they have reproduced without sex for millions of years but have not been driven extinct by relentlessly coevolving parasites. Bdelloids can escape fungal parasites in space and time through complete desiccation and dispersal by wind to uninfected habitats. See page 574.

Image: Kent Loeffler, Kathie T. Hodge, Chris Wilson
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The Alvarezsauridea group extends the clade containing birds and their theropod relatives back to 160 million years ago.

574 Anciently Asexual Bdelloid Rotifers Escape Lethal Fungal Parasites by Drying Up and Blowing Away
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Asexual bdelloid rotifers avoid the evolutionary parasite trap through desiccation resistance and dispersal.

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