

# Contents

<b>1 RNA 3D Structural Motifs: Definition, Identification, Annotation, and Database Searching .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Lorena Nasalean, Jesse Stombaugh, Craig L. Zirbel, and Neocles B. Leontis	
<b>2 Theory of RNA Folding: From Hairpins to Ribozymes .....</b>	<b>27</b>
D. Thirumalai and Changbong Hyeon	
<b>3 Thermodynamics and Kinetics of RNA Unfolding and Refolding .....</b>	<b>49</b>
Pan T.X. Li and Ignacio Tinoco	
<b>4 Ribozyme Catalysis of Phosphodiester Bond Isomerization: The Hammerhead RNA and Its Relatives .....</b>	<b>73</b>
William G. Scott	
<b>5 The Small Ribozymes: Common and Diverse Features Observed Through the FRET Lens .....</b>	<b>103</b>
Nils G. Walter and Shiamalee Perumal	
<b>6 Structure and Mechanism of the <i>glmS</i> Ribozyme.....</b>	<b>129</b>
Juliane K. Soukup and Garrett A. Soukup	
<b>7 Group I Ribozymes as a Paradigm for RNA Folding and Evolution ....</b>	<b>145</b>
Sarah A. Woodson and Seema Chauhan	
<b>8 Group II Introns and Their Protein Collaborators .....</b>	<b>167</b>
Amanda Solem, Nora Zingler, Anna Marie Pyle, and Jennifer Li-Pook-Than	
<b>9 Understanding the Role of Metal Ions in RNA Folding and Function: Lessons from RNase P, a Ribonucleoprotein Enzyme .....</b>	<b>183</b>
Michael E. Harris and Eric L. Christian	

<b>10 Beyond Crystallography: Investigating the Conformational Dynamics of the Purine Riboswitch</b> .....	215
Colby D. Stoddard and Robert T. Batey	
<b>11 Ligand Binding and Conformational Changes in the Purine-Binding Riboswitch Aptamer Domains</b> .....	229
Jonas Noeske, Janina Buck, Jens Wöhnert, and Harald Schwalbe	
<b>12 The RNA–Protein Complexes of <i>E. coli</i> Hfq: Form and Function</b> .....	249
Taewoo Lee and Andrew L. Feig	
<b>13 Assembly of the Human Signal Recognition Particle</b> .....	273
Elena Menichelli and Kiyoshi Nagai	
<b>14 Forms and Functions of Telomerase RNA</b> .....	285
Kathleen Collins	
<b>15 Ribosomal Dynamics: Intrinsic Instability of a Molecular Machine</b> .....	303
Haixiao Gao, Jamie LeBarron, and Joachim Frank	
<b>16 Biophysical Analyses of IRES RNAs from the <i>Dicistroviridae</i>: Linking Architecture to Function</b> .....	317
Jeffrey S. Kieft	
<b>17 Structure and Gene-Silencing Mechanisms of Small Noncoding RNAs</b> .....	335
Chia-Ying Chu and Tariq M. Rana	
<b>Index</b> .....	357
<b>Color Plates</b> .....	365