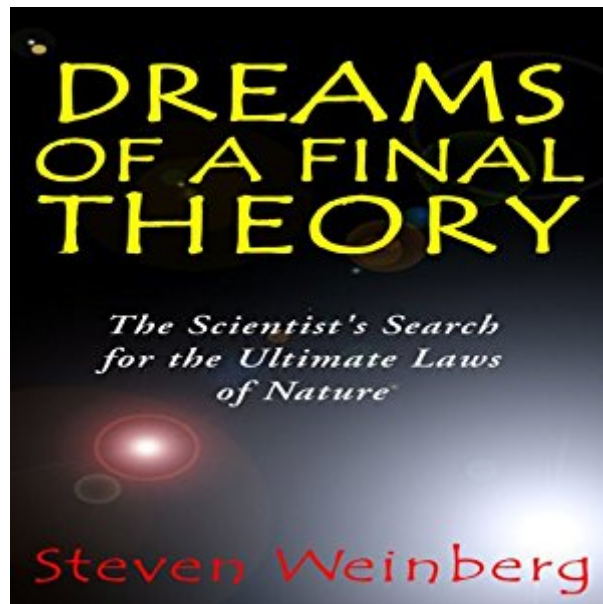


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Dreams Of A Final Theory: The Scientist's Search For The Ultimate Laws Of Nature



Synopsis

A scientist recounts his search for the laws of nature, imagining the shape of a final theory on nature and the effects its discovery will have on the human spirit. 60,000 first printing. \$60,000 ad/promo.

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Cogent objective & informative glimpse towards "Final Laws" This is a review of both the printed book & the fabulous book on tape. I discovered that the narrated unabridged (7 cassettes) book on tape is available after I read the printed book cover to cover. I quickly bought a copy & have since listened it more times than I can recall! The narrator's voice is pleasant to listen to. His voice comes across clear, brisk & very articulate. The whole wonderful experience keeps my attention riveted & gratefully takes my mind off the infamous Southern California traffic during my hours long commute each day. There's always something different & interesting that captivates my attention each time I experience this great book. Keep in mind that I'm a veritable compulsive-obsessive autodidactic with a fanatical drive to understand physical reality at the most fundamental level - call me a PRE (Physical Reality Explorer). I don't have a formal "higher" education or the mathematical tools to speak the technical language - but, like I said, I'm a fanatical layman who's bent on understanding what the hell is REALLY going on "out there" - or "in there" as the case may be...Well, back to the book! You don't really need a deep understanding of mathematics or even an understanding of Quantum Physics to "get" what this book has to offer. Shoot, for that matter, maybe having an "empty cup" would make the experience of this book all the better! So, what's in the book? Glad you

asked! Here's a brief table of contents with a few (parenthetical) comments:~ ~ Preface~ ~ Prologue~ ~ On a Piece of Chalk (great introduction to some basic principles in Atomic Theory)~ ~ Two Cheers for Reductionism ("...I am not an uncompromising reductionist, I'm a compromising reductionist!

This book is very easy to read, perhaps the easiest I have read on the subject. It is intended for the lay persons and is completely free of formulas, complicated concepts and tortuous reasonings. Maybe I would have liked that the author went into deeper explanations on some topics. I personally liked Fearful Symmetry: The Search for Beauty in Modern Physics (Princeton Science Library) and Deep Down Things: The Breathtaking Beauty of Particle Physics much better, since they contained more detailed explanations on several topics. In Fearful symmetry the author devoted the entire book to the intrinsic beauty of physical laws and its formulations. I found Mr. Weinberg's chapter "what about God" to be one of the best essays on religion/atheism and science that I have read, since he expresses his ideas in a thoroughly respectful manner and without complicated philosophical thesis. Throughout this book you perceive the author's sadness, anger and frustration at the cancellation of the SCC project and at the way funding is assigned to the various projects in the US. Although I share his feelings, I would have preferred to share with him his passion for physics instead of his sadness about a postponed dream of a final theory. I know that unfortunately "lobbying" is essential for getting funds for pure research, but in a way, I prefer to think of scientists as never minding such "earthly" things.

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