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An Old Man's Toy: Gravity At Work And Play In Einstein's Universe



Synopsis

"An Old Man's Toy: Gravity at Work and Play in Einstein's Universe by Zee, A."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

On Einstein's 76th (and last) birthday, a neighbor gave him a homemade toy that exemplified a basic truth about gravity. Starting with this ball-and-cup contraption, the author of *Fearful Symmetry* uses gravity as a springboard to discuss phenomena ranging from the emergence of galaxies to the curvature of space-time, evidence for the existence of gravity waves and the shape of the universe in the first nanoseconds of creation and now. Zee is an extraordinary writer: playful, inspired, brilliant. Making complex ideas accessible without oversimplifying, his narrative proceeds elegantly by way of a series of enigmas that take the reader to the outermost edge of modern physics. He concludes with a look at the quest for "dark matter" mysterious, invisible stuff said to pervade the universe and the efforts of superstring theorists to unify gravity with other fundamental forces in a nine-dimensional cosmos. Illustrated. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Among the numerous authors who have written popularizations of contemporary physics, none is better than Zee at explaining things simply. Saying that "Physics began with gravity, and it may end with gravity," Zee starts by describing Newton's classical formulation. He concludes with accounts of recent efforts to unify gravity with the three other fundamental forces. The book's largest section deals with gravity's role in the origin, evolution, and fate of the universe. Through use of familiar analogies and a lively writing style, Zee successfully renders complex concepts perfectly

understandable, albeit at the admitted cost of some technical material. Recommended.- Gregg Sapp, Idaho State Univ. Lib., Boise Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A. Zee has done a tremendous job with this book. It's very well written and holds one's attention. I got all the way through in two sittings because I was so engrossed.

Another great read for my bookshelves; thanks!

I really loved this book! As with most everything in science - you can explain all day long the "what it is" but never the "how and why it is". With anything involving PHYSICS someone can explain the "whats", but it's so complicated that there is no comprehension of the "what" much less try to discover the "how and why". Layman's terms are fantastic. Zee really does a great job in making it interesting and fun!

great, it is a very useful tool, high quality and very value for this price . as description. It's an awesome product! Tried it immediately after I received it. The package is so pretty as well!

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