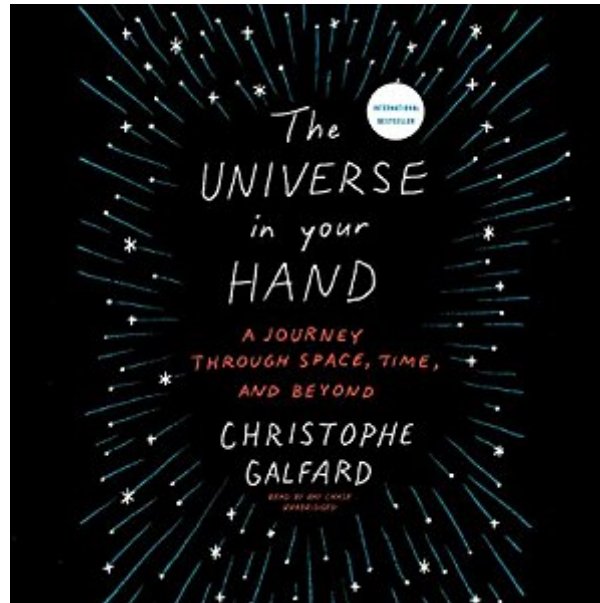




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The Universe In Your Hand: A Journey Through Space, Time, And Beyond



Synopsis

Stephen Hawking's protégé and cowriter lifts the veil on the mysteries of our universe in a style that is wonderfully direct. Quantum physics, black holes, string theory, the big bang, dark matter, dark energy, parallel universes: Even if we are interested in these fundamental concepts of our world, their language is the language of math. Which means that despite our best intentions of finally grasping, say, Einstein's theory of general relativity, most of us are quickly brought up short by a snarl of nasty equations or an incomprehensible graph. Christophe Galfard's mission in life is to spread modern scientific ideas to the general public in entertaining ways. Using his considerable skills as a brilliant theoretical physicist and successful young-adult author, *The Universe in Your Hand* employs the immediacy of simple, direct language to show us, not explain to us, the theories that underpin everything we know about our universe. To understand what happens to a dying star, we are asked to picture ourselves floating in space in front of it. To get acquainted with the quantum world, we are shrunk to the size of an atom and then taken on a journey. Employing everyday similes and metaphors, addressing the listener directly, and writing stories rather than equations renders these astoundingly complex ideas in an immediate and visceral way. Utterly captivating and entirely unique, *The Universe in Your Hand* will find its place among other classics in the field.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I can't praise this book enough. Although at times I had to read a few paragraphs more than once, I've been well rewarded for the effort. It is clear and conversational in tone, but at the same time

delivers the science in concise and accurate doses (even when the science is not all that clear in itself). I confess to tuning-out to "string theory", but perhaps at a later time I'll give it another look. Highly recommended for any non-scientist who wants to get a feel for what those scientific-theorist are proposing as the present state of our understanding of the universe.

Been on my nightstand for a month. A delightful and informative guided tour from the smallest to the biggest: string theory to beyond the observable universe. Not dry and no math. I'm gonna read it again.

Excellent! Very entertaining, easy to read and to understand for the non-physicist. A journey from the micro to the macro cosmos. Would recommend it for anyone who is interested in the clockwork of the universe.

A very readable journey through some difficult explanations of the origin, make up and destination of our universe. Informative, challenging, at times complex and complicated, but always enlightening and encouraging the reader to keep going. Of its sort, an enjoyable and satisfying read.

This is a truly enjoyable recap of present day knowledge. The authors writing style makes for easy reading. He is quite respectful of what is current fact and what is just theory.

An excellent overview of what know and what we don't know so far about our universe (Galfard is totally upfront about how no one, even those with the mathematical chops to predict its behavior, actually yet understands quantum physics, so don't feel bad about being confused - it's confusing to everyone). His conceit of the reader's direct participation in exploring the universe may seem corny at first but does carry one through the book quite gracefully. Anyone with curiosity will enjoy the read.

Excellent book. Easy to read and to understand. Each time I opened it, I had a hard time putting it down. I like good mystery books and cosmology at a novice level. This book offered both subjects at the same time.

If you are into modern physics you need this book. I majored in the (old) physics, and this work brought me up to date from the mid 60s...

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