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What A Wonderful World

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD

LIFE, THE UNIVERSE
AND EVERYTHING
IN A NUTSHELL



MARCUS CHOWN



Synopsis

Why do we breathe? What is money? How does the brain work? Why did life invent sex? Does time really exist? How does capitalism work - or not, as the case may be? Where do mountains come from? How do computers work? How did humans get to dominate the Earth? Why is there something rather than nothing? In *What a Wonderful World*, Marcus Chown, best-selling author of *Quantum Theory Cannot Hurt You* and the *Solar System* app, uses his vast scientific knowledge and deep understanding of extremely complex processes to answer simple questions about the workings of our everyday lives. Lucid, witty, and hugely entertaining, it explains the basics of our essential existence, stopping along the way to show us why the Atlantic is widening by a thumbs' length each year and how money permits trade to time travel, why the crucial advantage humans had over Neanderthals was sewing, and why we are all living in a giant hologram.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 9 hours and 59 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Audible Studios

Audible.com Release Date: March 31, 2015

Language: English

ASIN: B00VF1RGX2

Best Sellers Rank: #105 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Science > Physics #9576 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Biology #14003 in Books > Science & Math > Physics

Customer Reviews

This book has so many amazing facts to be discovered. A good introductory book to start off for those who want to know from how our body works to Einstein's gravity, and many in between. Fun to read. It makes you feel as though you are riding on a train of discovery journey, as you flip from page to page.

Marcus Chown is a very able communicator with a wide knowledge range. Much of the subject matter can be sourced elsewhere but here the clear exposition and flowing text makes for an enjoyable and enlightening read in the mould of Carl Sagan. A book for the intellectually curious with open minds. Big stuff indeed.

As a layperson not having trained in the sciences I found Marcus Chown's style to be enlightening, engaging, and most informative. If in my early years I had people like him as teachers who knows what heights I might have scaled. I am very much the richer from having read it.

This is an engaging, fun-to-read tour through some of the challenging and fascinating concepts in modern physics. The enthusiasm of the author is wonderfully infectious, and some of his tips on other readings on these topics are also very useful.

I have always had a facinatuon with most things around us and particulary in nature. This book really kept my interest and is something you can just dip in and out of as suits. I found his explanations and subject matter facinating and they were extremely easy to understand.

Difficult science subjects made clear (or clearer than they were before I read this!).

very nicely set into words, specially the first two chapters.

Good, fun with nuggets of unussual things one doesn't know.

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