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Introduction to Elementary Particles

HarperCollins Publishers

Introduction to Elementary Particles

John Wiley & Sons Die Elementarteilchenphysik ist auf der ganzen Welt ein fester Bestandteil im Curriculum des Physikstudiums. Umso wichtiger ist es daher, dass auf diesem Gebiet bereits in den ersten Semestern ein solides Wissensfundament gelegt wird - nicht zuletzt als Vorbereitung auf die Themenbereiche Hochenergie- oder Kernphysik. In diesen Band ist die gesamte Lehrerfahrung von David Griffiths eingeflossen - eine begehrte "Ware", die in der Neuauflage nun auch ein Lösungsmanual präsentiert, das die zahlreichen Aufgaben und Fragen der Kapitelenden aufnimmt. Der Autor versteht es, sich den Themen in einer lebendigen Sprache zu nähern, die jedoch im Hinblick auf Präzision keine Kompromisse eingeht. So eröffnet der Band den Zugang zu den Theorien ebenso wie zu Modellen und Rechenoperationen. Das Werk wird von vielen Lehrenden empfohlen und kann bereits jetzt als Klassiker innerhalb der einführenden Werke zur Elementarteilchenphysik bezeichnet werden.

Modern Particle Physics

Cambridge University Press Unique in its coverage of all aspects of modern particle physics, this textbook provides a clear connection between the theory and recent experimental results, including the discovery of the Higgs boson at CERN. It provides a comprehensive and self-contained description of the Standard Model of particle physics suitable for upper-level undergraduate students and graduate students studying experimental particle physics. Physical theory is introduced in a straightforward manner with full mathematical derivations throughout. Fully-worked examples enable students to link the mathematical theory to results from modern particle physics experiments. End-of-chapter exercises, graded by difficulty, provide students with a deeper understanding of the subject. Online resources available at www.cambridge.org/MPP feature password-protected fully-worked solutions to problems for instructors, numerical solutions and hints to the problems for students and PowerPoint slides and JPEGs of figures from the book.

Revolutions in Twentieth-Century Physics

Cambridge University Press "The conceptual changes brought by modern physics are important, radical and fascinating, yet they are only vaguely understood by people working outside the field. Exploring the four pillars of modern physics - relativity, quantum mechanics, elementary particles and cosmology - this clear and lively account will interest anyone who has wondered what Einstein, Bohr, Schrödinger and Heisenberg were really talking about. The book discusses quarks and leptons, antiparticles and Feynman diagrams, curved space-time, the Big Bang and the expanding Universe. Suitable for undergraduate students in non-science as well as science subjects, it uses problems and worked examples to help readers develop an understanding of what recent advances in physics actually mean"--

Introduction to Electrodynamics

Cambridge University Press This well-known undergraduate electrodynamics textbook is now available in a more affordable printing from Cambridge University Press. The Fourth Edition provides a rigorous, yet clear and accessible treatment of the fundamentals of electromagnetic theory and offers a sound platform for explorations of related applications (AC circuits, antennas, transmission lines, plasmas, optics and more). Written keeping in mind the conceptual hurdles typically faced by undergraduate students, this textbook illustrates the theoretical steps with well-chosen examples and careful illustrations. It balances text and equations, allowing the physics to shine through without compromising the rigour of the math, and includes numerous problems, varying from straightforward to elaborate, so that students can be assigned some problems to build their confidence and others to stretch their minds. A Solutions Manual is available to instructors teaching from the book; access can be requested from the resources section at www.cambridge.org/electrodynamics.

Introduction to High Energy Physics

Cambridge University Press This highly-regarded text provides a comprehensive introduction to modern particle physics. Extensively rewritten and updated, this 4th edition includes developments in elementary particle physics, as well as its connections with cosmology and astrophysics. As in previous editions, the balance between experiment and theory is continually emphasised. The stress is on the phenomenological approach and basic theoretical concepts rather than rigorous mathematical detail. Short descriptions are given of some of the key experiments in the field, and how they have influenced our thinking. Although most of the material is presented in the context of the Standard Model of quarks and leptons, the shortcomings of this model and new physics beyond its compass (such as supersymmetry, neutrino mass and oscillations, GUTs and superstrings) are also discussed. The text includes many problems and a detailed and annotated further reading list.

Elementary Particle Physics

An Intuitive Introduction

Cambridge University Press Introduces the fundamentals of particle physics with a focus on modern developments and an intuitive physical interpretation of results.

Introduction to Nuclear and Particle Physics

World Scientific ' The original edition of Introduction to Nuclear and Particle Physics was used with great success for single-semester courses on nuclear and particle physics offered by American and Canadian universities at the undergraduate level. It was also translated into German, and used overseas. Being less formal but well-written, this book is a good vehicle for learning the more intuitive rather than formal aspects of the subject. It is therefore of value to scientists with a minimal background in quantum mechanics, but is sufficiently substantive to have been recommended for graduate students interested in the fields covered in the text. In the second edition, the material begins with an exceptionally clear development of Rutherford scattering and, in the four following chapters, discusses sundry phenomenological issues concerning nuclear properties and structure, and general applications of radioactivity and of the nuclear force. This is followed by two chapters dealing with interactions of particles in matter, and how these characteristics are used to detect and identify such particles. A chapter on accelerators rounds out the experimental aspects of the field. The final seven chapters deal with elementary-particle phenomena, both before and after the realization of the Standard Model. This is interspersed with discussion of symmetries in classical physics and in the quantum domain, bringing into full focus the issues concerning CP violation, isotopic spin, and other symmetries. The final three chapters are devoted to the Standard Model and to possibly new physics beyond it, emphasizing unification of forces, supersymmetry, and other exciting areas of current research. The book contains several appendices on related subjects, such as special relativity, the nature of symmetry groups, etc. There are also many examples and problems in the text that are of value in gauging the reader's understanding of the material. Contents: Rutherford Scattering Nuclear Phenomenology Nuclear Models Nuclear Radiation Applications of Nuclear Physics Energy Deposition in Media Particle Detection Accelerators Properties and Interactions of Elementary Particles Symmetries Discrete Transformations Neutral Kaons, Oscillations, and CP Violation Formulation of the Standard Model Standard Model and Confrontation with Data Beyond the Standard Model Readership: Advanced undergraduates and researchers in nuclear and particle physics. Keywords: Rutherford Scattering; Nuclear Properties; Nuclear Structure; Elementary Particles; Sub-Structure of Particles; Particle Detectors; Interactions in Matter; The Standard Model; Symmetries of Nature; Theories of Nuclear and Particle Structure; Radioactivity; Supersymmetry Reviews: "The book by Das and Ferbel is particularly suited as a basis for a one-semester course on both subjects since it contains a very concise introduction to those topics and I like very much the outline and contents of this book." Kay Konigsmann Universität Freiburg, Germany "The book provides an introduction to the subject very well suited for the introductory course for physics majors. Presentation is very clear and nicely balances the issues of nuclear and particle physics, exposes both theoretical ideas and modern experimental methods. Presentation is also very economic and one can cover most of the book in a one-semester course. In the second edition, the authors updated the contents to reflect the very recent developments in the theory and experiment. They managed to do it without substantial increase of the size of the book. I used the first edition several times to teach the course 'Introduction to Subatomic Physics' and I am looking forward to use this new edition to teach the course next year." Professor Mark Strikman Pennsylvania State University, USA "This book can be recommended to those who find elementary particle physics of absorbing interest." Contemporary Physics '

An Introduction to Particle Physics and the Standard Model

CRC Press An Introduction to the Standard Model of Particle Physics familiarizes readers with what is considered tested and accepted and in so doing, gives them a grounding in particle physics in general. Whenever possible, Dr. Mann takes an historical approach showing how the model is linked to the physics that most of us have learned in less challenging areas. Dr. Mann reviews special relativity and classical mechanics, symmetries, conservation laws, and particle classification; then working from the tested paradigm of the model itself, he: Describes the Standard Model in terms of its electromagnetic, strong, and weak components Explores the experimental tools and methods of particle physics Introduces Feynman diagrams, wave equations, and gauge invariance, building up to the theory of Quantum Electrodynamics Describes the theories of the Strong and Electroweak interactions Uncovers frontier areas and explores what might lie beyond our current concepts of the subatomic world Those who work through the material will develop a solid command of the basics of particle physics. The book does require a knowledge of special relativity, quantum mechanics, and electromagnetism, but most importantly it requires a hunger to understand at the most fundamental level: why things exist and how it is that anything happens. This book will prepare students and others for further study, but most importantly it will prepare them to open their minds to the mysteries that lie ahead. Ultimately, the Large Hadron Collider may prove the model correct, helping so many realize their greatest dreams ... or it might poke holes in the model, leaving us to wonder an even more exciting possibility: that the answers lie in possibilities so unique that we have not even dreamt of them.

Concepts of Elementary Particle Physics

Oxford Master Series in Physic The purpose of this textbook is to explain the Standard Model of particle physics to a student with an undergraduate preparation in physics. Today we can claim to have a fundamental picture of the strong and weak subnuclear forces. Through an interplay between theory and experiment, we have learned the basic equations through which these forces operate, and we have tested these equations against observations at particle accelerators. The story is beautiful and full of surprises. Using a simplified presentation that does not assume prior knowledge of quantum field theory, this book begins from basic concepts of special relativity and quantum mechanics, describes the key experiments that have clarified the structure of elementary particle interactions, introduces the crucial theoretical concepts, and builds up to the full description of elementary particle interactions as we know them today.

An Introduction To Quantum Field Theory

CRC Press An Introduction to Quantum Field Theory is a textbook intended for the graduate physics course covering relativistic quantum mechanics, quantum electrodynamics, and Feynman diagrams. The authors make these subjects accessible through carefully worked examples illustrating the technical aspects of the subject, and intuitive explanations of what is going on behind the mathematics. After presenting the basics of quantum electrodynamics, the authors discuss the theory of renormalization and its relation to statistical mechanics, and introduce the renormalization group. This discussion sets the stage for a discussion of the physical principles that underlie the fundamental interactions of elementary particle physics and their description by gauge field theories.

Gauge Theory of Elementary Particle Physics

Oxford University Press

Introduction to Quantum Mechanics

Cambridge University Press Changes and additions to the new edition of this classic textbook include a new chapter on symmetries, new problems and examples, improved explanations, more numerical problems to be worked on a computer, new applications to solid state physics, and consolidated treatment of time-dependent potentials.

Electromagnetism

John Wiley & Sons The Manchester Physics Series General Editors: D. J. Sandiford; F. Mandl; A. C. Phillips Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Manchester Properties of Matter B. H. Flowers and E. Mendoza Optics Second Edition F. G. Smith and J. H. Thomson Statistical Physics Second Edition F. Mandl Electromagnetism Second Edition I. S. Grant and W. R. Phillips Statistics R. J. Barlow Solid State Physics Second Edition J. R. Hook and H. E. Hall Quantum Mechanics F. Mandl Particle Physics Second Edition B. R. Martin and G. Shaw the Physics of Stars Second Edition A. C. Phillips Computing for Scientists R. J. Barlow and A. R. Barnett Electromagnetism, Second Edition is suitable for a first course in electromagnetism, whilst also covering many topics frequently encountered in later

courses. The material has been carefully arranged and allows for flexibility in its use for courses of different length and structure. A knowledge of calculus and an elementary knowledge of vectors is assumed, but the mathematical properties of the differential vector operators are described in sufficient detail for an introductory course, and their physical significance in the context of electromagnetism is emphasised. In this Second Edition the authors give a fuller treatment of circuit analysis and include a discussion of the dispersion of electromagnetic waves. Electromagnetism, Second Edition features: The application of the laws of electromagnetism to practical problems such as the behaviour of antennas, transmission lines and transformers. Sets of problems at the end of each chapter to help student understanding, with hints and solutions to the problems given at the end of the book. Optional "starred" sections containing more specialised and advanced material for the more ambitious reader. An Appendix with a thorough discussion of electromagnetic standards and units. Recommended by many institutions. Electromagnetism, Second Edition has also been adopted by the Open University as the coursebook for its third level course on electromagnetism.

An Introduction to Modern Astrophysics

Cambridge University Press An Introduction to Modern Astrophysics is a comprehensive, well-organized and engaging text covering every major area of modern astrophysics, from the solar system and stellar astronomy to galactic and extragalactic astrophysics, and cosmology. Designed to provide students with a working knowledge of modern astrophysics, this textbook is suitable for astronomy and physics majors who have had a first-year introductory physics course with calculus. Featuring a brief summary of the main scientific discoveries that have led to our current understanding of the universe; worked examples to facilitate the understanding of the concepts presented in the book; end-of-chapter problems to practice the skills acquired; and computational exercises to numerically model astronomical systems, the second edition of An Introduction to Modern Astrophysics is the go-to textbook for learning the core astrophysics curriculum as well as the many advances in the field.

Modern Elementary Particle Physics

Explaining and Extending the Standard Model

Cambridge University Press This book is written for students and scientists wanting to learn about the Standard Model of particle physics. Only an introductory course knowledge about quantum theory is needed. The text provides a pedagogical description of the theory, and incorporates the recent Higgs boson and top quark discoveries. With its clear and engaging style, this new edition retains its essential simplicity. Long and detailed calculations are replaced by simple approximate ones. It includes introductions to accelerators, colliders, and detectors, and several main experimental tests of the Standard Model are explained. Descriptions of some well-motivated extensions of the Standard Model prepare the reader for new developments. It emphasizes the concepts of gauge theories and Higgs physics, electroweak unification and symmetry breaking, and how force strengths vary with energy, providing a solid foundation for those working in the field, and for those who simply want to learn about the Standard Model.

Introduction to Elementary Particles

John Wiley & Sons Die Elementarteilchenphysik ist auf der ganzen Welt ein fester Bestandteil im Curriculum des Physikstudiums. Umso wichtiger ist es daher, dass auf diesem Gebiet bereits in den ersten Semestern ein solides Wissensfundament gelegt wird - nicht zuletzt als Vorbereitung auf die Themenbereiche Hochenergie- oder Kernphysik. In diesen Band ist die gesamte Lehrerfahrung von David Griffiths eingeflossen - eine begehrte "Ware", die in der Neuauflage nun auch ein Lösungsmanual präsentiert, das die zahlreichen Aufgaben und Fragen der Kapitelenden aufnimmt. Der Autor versteht es, sich den Themen in einer lebendigen Sprache zu nähern, die jedoch im Hinblick auf Präzision keine Kompromisse eingeht. So eröffnet der Band den Zugang zu den Theorien ebenso wie zu Modellen und Rechenoperationen. Das Werk wird von vielen Lehrenden empfohlen und kann bereits jetzt als Klassiker innerhalb der einführenden Werke zur Elementarteilchenphysik bezeichnet werden.

Quarks and Leptons

An Introductory Course in Modern Particle Physics

John Wiley & Sons Incorporated This self-contained text describes breakthroughs in our understanding of the structure and interactions of elementary particles. It provides students of theoretical or experimental physics with the background material to grasp the significance of these developments.

Quantum Field Theory and the Standard Model

Cambridge University Press A modern introduction to quantum field theory for graduates, providing intuitive, physical explanations supported by real-world applications and homework problems.

Particle Physics

John Wiley & Sons An essential introduction to particle physics, with coverage ranging from the basics through to the very latest developments, in an accessible and carefully structured text. Particle Physics: Third Edition is a revision of a highly regarded introduction to particle physics. In its two previous editions this book has proved to be an accessible and balanced introduction to modern particle physics, suitable for those students needed a more comprehensive introduction to the subject than provided by the 'compendium' style physics books. In the Third Edition the standard model of particle physics is carefully developed whilst unnecessary mathematical formalism is avoided where possible. Emphasis is placed on the interpretation of experimental data in terms of the basic properties of quarks and leptons. One of the major developments of the past decade has been the establishing of the existence of neutrino oscillations. This will have a profound effect on the plans of experimentalists. This latest edition brings the text fully up-to-date, and includes new sections on neutrino physics, as well as expanded coverage of detectors, such as the LHC detector. End of chapter problems with a full set of hints for their solutions provided at the end of the book. An accessible and carefully structured introduction to this demanding subject. Includes more advanced material in optional 'starred' sections. Coverage of the foundations of the subject, as well as the very latest developments.

Introduction to Classical Mechanics

With Problems and Solutions

Cambridge University Press This textbook covers all the standard introductory topics in classical mechanics, including Newton's laws, oscillations, energy, momentum, angular momentum, planetary motion, and special relativity. It also explores more advanced topics, such as normal modes, the Lagrangian method, gyroscopic motion, fictitious forces, 4-vectors, and general relativity. It contains more than 250 problems with detailed solutions so students can easily check their understanding of the topic. There are also over 350 unworked exercises which are ideal for homework assignments. Password protected solutions are available to instructors at www.cambridge.org/9780521876223. The vast number of problems alone makes it an ideal supplementary text for all levels of undergraduate physics courses in classical mechanics. Remarks are scattered throughout the text, discussing issues that are often glossed over in other textbooks, and it is thoroughly illustrated with more than 600 figures to help demonstrate key concepts.

Classical Dynamics of Particles and Systems

Academic Press Classical Dynamics of Particles and Systems presents a modern and reasonably complete account of the classical mechanics of particles, systems of particles, and rigid bodies for physics students at the advanced undergraduate level. The book aims to present a modern treatment of classical mechanical systems in such a way that the transition to the quantum theory of physics can be made with the least possible difficulty; to acquaint the student with new mathematical techniques and provide sufficient practice in solving problems; and to impart to the student some degree of sophistication in handling both the formalism of the theory and the operational technique of problem solving. Vector methods are developed in the first two chapters and are used throughout the book. Other chapters cover the fundamentals of Newtonian mechanics, the special theory of relativity, gravitational attraction and potentials, oscillatory motion, Lagrangian and Hamiltonian dynamics, central-force motion, two-particle collisions, and the wave equation.

Dynamics of the Standard Model

Cambridge University Press Describing the theory of particle physics and its applications for graduate students and researchers in particle physics and nuclear physics.

Quantum Computation and Quantum Information

Cambridge University Press First-ever comprehensive introduction to the major new subject of quantum computing and quantum information.

An Introduction to Quantum Computing

Oxford University Press The authors provide an introduction to quantum computing. Aimed at advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate students in these disciplines, this text is illustrated with diagrams and exercises.

Introduction to Elementary Particle Physics

Cambridge University Press The Standard Model is the most comprehensive physical theory ever developed. This textbook conveys the basic elements of the Standard Model using elementary concepts, without the theoretical rigor found in most other texts on this subject. It contains examples of basic experiments, allowing readers to see how measurements and theory interplay in the development of physics. The author examines leptons, hadrons and quarks, before presenting the dynamics and the surprising properties of the charges of the different forces. The textbook concludes with a brief discussion on the discoveries of physics beyond the Standard Model, and its connections with cosmology. Quantitative examples are given, and the reader is guided through the necessary calculations. Each chapter ends in the exercises, and solutions to some problems are included in the book. Complete solutions are available to instructors at www.cambridge.org/9781107406094.

Introduction to Quantum Mechanics

Cambridge University Press This bestselling textbook teaches students how to do quantum mechanics and provides an insightful discussion of what it actually means.

Mathematical Methods for Physics and Engineering

A Comprehensive Guide

Cambridge University Press The third edition of this highly acclaimed undergraduate textbook is suitable for teaching all the mathematics for an undergraduate course in any of the physical sciences. As well as lucid descriptions of all the topics and many worked examples, it contains over 800 exercises. New stand-alone chapters give a systematic account of the 'special functions' of physical science, cover an extended range of practical applications of complex variables, and give an introduction to quantum operators. Further tabulations, of relevance in statistics and numerical integration, have been added. In this edition, half of the exercises are provided with hints and answers and, in a separate manual available to both students and their teachers, complete worked solutions. The remaining exercises have no hints, answers or worked solutions and can be used for unaided homework; full solutions are available to instructors on a password-protected web site, www.cambridge.org/9780521679718.

Introduction to Electrodynamics

For junior/senior-level electricity and magnetism courses. This book is known for its clear, concise and accessible coverage of standard topics in a logical and pedagogically sound order. The Third Edition features a clear, accessible treatment of the fundamentals of electromagnetic theory, providing a sound platform for the exploration of related applications (ac circuits, antennas, transmission lines, plasmas, optics, etc.). Its lean and focused approach employs numerous examples and problems.

An Introduction to Elementary Particles

Elsevier An Introduction to Elementary Particles, Second Edition aims to give an introduction to the theoretical methods and ideas used to describe how elementary particles behave, as well as interpret some of the phenomena associated with it. The book covers topics such as quantum mechanics; brats, kets, vectors, and linear operations; angular momentum; scattering and reaction theory; the polarization and angularization of spin-0-spin-1/2 scattering; and symetry, isotopic spin, and hypercharge. The book also discusses particles such as bosons, baryons, mesons, kaons, and hadrons, as well as the interactions between them. The text is recommended for physicists, especially those who are practitioners and researchers in the fields of quantum physics and elementary-particle physics.

Solved Problems in Classical Mechanics

Analytical and Numerical Solutions with Comments

Oxford University Press simulated motion on a computer screen, and to study the effects of changing parameters. --

Conquering the Physics GRE

A self-contained guide to the Physics GRE, reviewing all of the topics covered alongside three practice exams with fully worked solutions.

Elementary Particle Physics in a Nutshell

Princeton University Press The new experiments underway at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN in Switzerland may significantly change our understanding of elementary particle physics and, indeed, the universe. Suitable for first-year graduate students and advanced undergraduates, this textbook provides an introduction to the field

Introduction to Elementary Particle Physics

Cambridge University Press The second edition of this successful textbook is fully updated to include the discovery of the Higgs boson and other recent developments, providing undergraduate students with complete coverage of the basic elements of the standard model of particle physics for the first time. Physics is emphasised over mathematical rigour, making the material accessible to students with no previous knowledge of elementary particles. Important experiments and the theory linked to them are highlighted, helping students appreciate how key ideas were developed. The chapter on neutrino physics has been completely revised, and the final chapter summarises the limits of the standard model and introduces students to what lies beyond. Over 250 problems, including sixty that are new to this edition, encourage students to apply the theory themselves. Partial solutions to selected problems appear in the book, with full solutions and slides of all figures available at www.cambridge.org/9781107050402.

Modern Electrodynamics

Cambridge University Press An engaging writing style and a strong focus on the physics make this graduate-level textbook a must-have for electromagnetism students.

Introducing Microsoft Power BI

Microsoft Press This is the eBook of the printed book and may not include any media, website access codes, or print supplements that may come packaged with the bound book. Introducing Microsoft Power BI enables you to evaluate when and how to use Power BI. Get inspired to improve business processes in your company by leveraging the available analytical and collaborative features of this environment. Be sure to watch for the publication of Alberto Ferrari and Marco Russo's upcoming retail book, *Analyzing Data with Power BI and Power Pivot for Excel* (ISBN 9781509302765). Go to the book's page at the Microsoft Press Store here for more details:<http://aka.ms/analyzingdata/details>. Learn more about Power BI at <https://powerbi.microsoft.com/>.

Particle Physics: A Very Short Introduction

OUP Oxford In this compelling introduction to the fundamental particles that make up the universe, Frank Close takes us on a journey into the atom to examine known particles such as quarks, electrons, and the ghostly neutrino. Along the way he provides fascinating insights into how discoveries in particle physics have actually been made, and discusses how our picture of the world has been radically revised in the light of these developments. He concludes by looking ahead to new ideas about the mystery of antimatter, the number of dimensions that there might be in the universe, and to what the next 50 years of research might reveal. ABOUT THE SERIES: The Very Short Introductions series from Oxford University Press contains hundreds of titles in almost every subject area. These pocket-sized books are the perfect way to get ahead in a new subject quickly. Our expert authors combine facts, analysis, perspective, new ideas, and enthusiasm to make interesting and challenging topics highly readable.

Problems and Solutions in Quantum Mechanics

Cambridge University Press This collection of solved problems corresponds to the standard topics covered in established undergraduate and graduate courses in Quantum Mechanics. Problems are also included on topics of interest which are often absent in the existing literature. Solutions are presented in considerable detail, to enable students to follow each step. The emphasis is on stressing the principles and methods used, allowing students to master new ways of thinking and problem-solving techniques. The problems themselves are longer than those usually encountered in textbooks and consist of a number of questions based around a central theme, highlighting properties and concepts of interest. For undergraduate and graduate students, as well as those involved in teaching Quantum Mechanics, the book can be used as a supplementary text or as an independent self-study tool.

Problems And Solutions On Quantum Mechanics

World Scientific Publishing Company The material for these volumes has been selected from the past twenty years' examination questions for graduate students at the University of California at Berkeley, Columbia University, the University of Chicago, MIT, the State University of New York at Buffalo, Princeton University and the University of Wisconsin.

The Big Picture

On the Origins of Life, Meaning, and the Universe Itself

Penguin The instant New York Times bestseller about humanity's place in the universe—and how we understand it. “Vivid...impressive....Splendidly informative.”—The New York Times “Succeeds spectacularly.”—Science “A tour de force.”—Salon Already internationally acclaimed for his elegant, lucid writing on the most challenging notions in modern physics, Sean Carroll is emerging as one of the greatest humanist thinkers of his generation as he brings his extraordinary intellect to bear not only on Higgs bosons and extra dimensions but now also on our deepest personal questions: Where are we? Who are we? Are our emotions, our beliefs, and our hopes and dreams ultimately meaningless out there in the void? Do human purpose and meaning fit into a scientific worldview? In short chapters filled with intriguing historical anecdotes, personal asides, and rigorous exposition, readers learn the difference between how the world works at the quantum level, the cosmic level, and the human level—and then how each connects to the other. Carroll's presentation of the principles that have guided the scientific revolution from Darwin and Einstein to the origins of life, consciousness, and the universe is dazzlingly unique. Carroll shows how an avalanche of discoveries in the past few hundred years has changed our world and what really matters to us. Our lives are dwarfed like never before by the immensity of space and time, but they are redeemed by our capacity to comprehend it and give it meaning. The Big Picture is an unprecedented scientific worldview, a tour de force that will sit on shelves alongside the works of Stephen Hawking, Carl Sagan, Daniel Dennett, and E. O. Wilson for years to come.