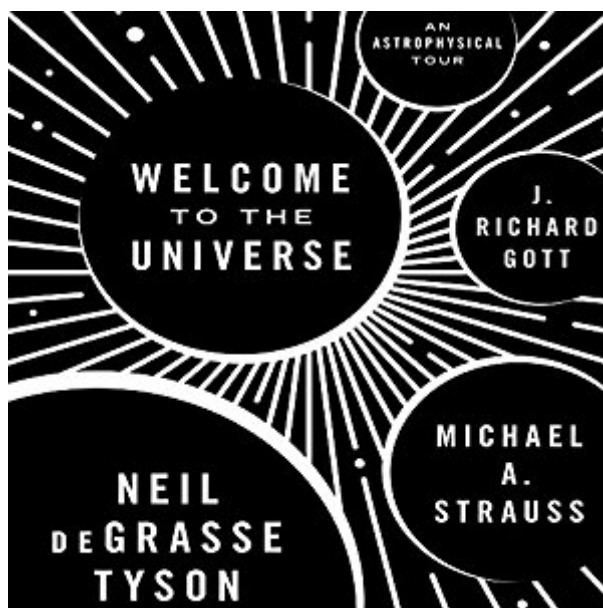


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# Welcome To The Universe: An Astrophysical Tour



## Synopsis

Welcome to the Universe is a personal guided tour of the cosmos by three of today's leading astrophysicists. Inspired by the enormously popular introductory astronomy course that Neil deGrasse Tyson, Michael A. Strauss, and J. Richard Gott taught together at Princeton, this book covers it all - from planets, stars, and galaxies to black holes, wormholes, and time travel.

Describing the latest discoveries in astrophysics, the informative and entertaining narrative propels you from our home solar system to the outermost frontiers of space. How do stars live and die? Why did Pluto lose its planetary status? What are the prospects of intelligent life elsewhere in the universe? How did the universe begin? Why is it expanding, and why is its expansion accelerating? Is our universe alone or part of an infinite multiverse? Answering these and many other questions, the authors open your eyes to the wonders of the cosmos, sharing their knowledge of how the universe works. Breathtaking in scope, Welcome to the Universe is for those who hunger for insights into our evolving universe that only world-class astrophysicists can provide.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is essentially a quick primer on astrophysics, written in a clear and easy to understand manner without dumbing down the contents. It reminds me of what I had learned in high school and college but my understanding after reading this book is a lot better because the examples were so much better. I wish the three authors taught my science courses! The book covers fun topics including black holes, warp drives, solar systems, galaxies, multiverses, superstring theory, M-theory, unique

star types, space colonization, and time travel along with equations with basic algebra concepts explained throughout.

This is an extremely well done book. The authors are to be particularly commended for excellent coordination between topics, referencing each other across chapters. Given the breadth of the topics, the effort to insure integration and coherence is notable. Starting with "astronomy 101", recounting history and discoveries to provide understanding of 'how we got to the present', the book moves from the solar system outward ... finally to the cosmology of the universe. At the start concepts are elemental, imparting knowledge many with interest in astronomy learned in early years. As the story grows more complicated, astronomy becomes astrophysics with authors incorporating necessary physics background. There are extensive discussions on aspects of galactic structure, star types, stellar evolution. Later, in the book there are select chapters on special relativity, general relativity, black holes, time travel. It is a seemingly whirlwind tour, but one well designed and described. The authors have taken great pains (and succeeded) in helping us understand what they have learned about the universe and associated complex physics. As a grade school child, I became fascinated with astronomy, encouraged by a Cal Tech aeronautical engineer neighbor who was similarly attracted. Not having joined the astrophysics family, reading this book rekindled the old interest. On a higher level anyone pondering the core existential questions lacks adequate knowledge without a grasp of the nature of our universe. This is a good volume from which to find that knowledge. Bravo!

Beautiful book and very high quality paper and binding. I love e-books but this hard cover feels wonderful in my hands. Hard science explained for the layman.

Although written for the lay audience, this book caused me to think critically and flex my old mathematical skills. The math really helped clarify many concepts. It gave me a sense of accomplishment in understanding relativity and quantum physics. No calculus, but reasonable math. All three authors have a sense of humor, which to me, made the book more enjoyable. This is a great read and leaves me thirsting for more about this scientific tour de force. I recommend this for anyone with an inquisitive mind and hunger for knowledge. A great read!

I found it very easy to understand the concept of what was being described despite not comprehending every single equation and terminology. Great explanation. Very thoughtful and

definitely recommend

Well explained basic concepts of our universe, a book that everyone should read, especially if you're interested in this topic! The material is at times a bit hard to understand if you're not very much into maths, but this shouldn't keep anyone from reading it. Every educated person on this planet should know and understand this kind of topics.

This is great science and would appeal especially to those who are interested in astrophysics on a popular level. In other words it's sophisticated enough but comes across in a very digestible way.

A great book! Very detailed yet readable study of the the current state of our knowledge of the universe.

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