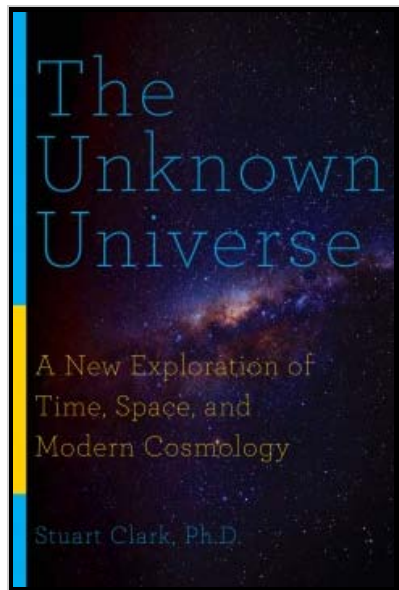


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The Unknown Universe

A New Exploration of Time, Space, and Modern Cosmology

by Stuart Clark

Price: \$27.95(Hardcover)

Published: July 05, 2016



Rating: 0.0/5 (0 votes cast)

From the Publisher: On March 21, 2013, the European Space Agency released a map of the afterglow of the Big Bang. Taking in 440 sextillion kilometres of space and 13.8 billion years of time, it is physically impossible to make a better map: we will never see the early universe in more detail. On the one hand, such a view is the apotheosis of modern cosmology, on the other, it threatens to undermine almost everything we hold cosmologically sacrosanct. The map contains anomalies that challenge our understanding of the universe. It will force us to revisit what is known and what is unknown, to construct a new model of our universe. This is the first book to address what will be an epoch-defining scientific paradigm shift. Stuart Clark will ask if Newton's famous laws of gravity need to be rewritten; if dark matter and dark energy are just celestial phantoms? Can we ever know what happened...

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About The Author

Stuart Clark

Stuart Clark, Ph.D., is a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, author of the Guardian blog *Across the Universe*, and is the astrology correspondent for *The New Scientist*. Stuart holds a first-class honors degree and a Ph.D. in astrophysics. *The Sun Kings*, which established him as a popular science...

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Release Info

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What We Say

Stuart Clark is both an accomplished astronomer and an acclaimed science writer (especially for *The Guardian*). With *"The Unknown Universe"* he accomplishes a lot. Like Carl Sagan, he's an excellent popularizer; unlike Stephen Hawking, he won't leave the layperson bedazzled but confused. Clark takes us to the very edge of our knowledge about the universe, or rather our growing lack of knowledge, since the more you know about most complex subjects, the more you realize there is yet to learn. In clear but never simplistic language, he spells out new ideas like gravitational waves and how the pictures we have recently "snapped" of the universe -- the ultimate selfies -- are the closest glimpse we'll ever get to the split-second after

the Big Bang. But this isn't front-line reporting about breaking news in cosmology. The real and enduring accomplishment of "The Unknown Universe" is to give vivid portraits of great scientists from the past and show how the baton is passed from generation to generation, from century to century: ideas raised in one era become outmoded or justified in the next. Clark makes a mockery of those who wrongly believe science jealously guards its turf and has sacred tenets that cannot be questioned. Time and again he demonstrates how everything from the most bedrock principles (Newton's laws of gravity?) to the latest fad (dark matter?) can and will be upended. If new facts emerge, scientists immediately jettison whatever doesn't fit. It's exciting, inspiring and frankly reassuring. The unknown universe is a testament to our unquenchable desire to understand and explain and prove to each other what we think we understand about the way the world works. Clark makes that endless journey a vivid one. -- Michael Giltz

What Others Say

The author brings the subject up to 2015 with the obligatory new discovery combined with a fine history of cosmology, and he makes it clear that our knowledge and ignorance seem to be expanding in parallel. Since satisfying results have yet to turn up, Clark's book ends on a cliffhanger, but readers will be entirely pleased with the experience. - Kirkus Reviews

Herein lies the tale of intrepid astronomers, across time and cultures, who were the first to observe, identify, and document our misbehaving Sun. A delightful, informative read. - Neil deGrasse Tyson, astrophysicist, author of 'Death by Black Hole: And Other Cosmic Quandaries'

The balance of brief biographies, technical exposition, intriguing trivia, and big-picture thinking is just right for the context. There's plenty of fresh and fascinating information to learn. The exciting recent discovery of gravitational waves will make this title all the more relevant for the cosmologically curious. - Library Journal

In this well-researched and very well-written book, Clark tells the embattled, little-known history of modern astronomy, a spry tale full of intrigue, jealousy, spite, dedication...

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