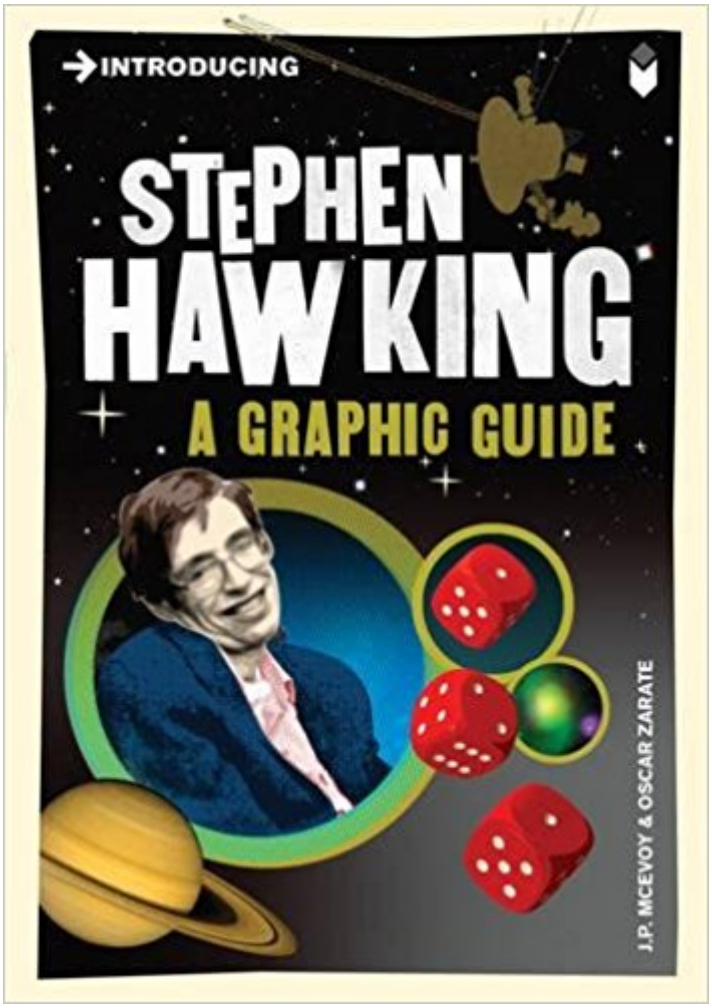
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Introducing Stephen Hawking: A Graphic Guide



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Synopsis

Stephen Hawking is the world-famous physicist with a cameo in "The Simpsons on his CV", but outside his academic field his work is little understood. To the public he is a tragic figure - a brilliant scientist and author of the 9 million-copy-selling "A Brief History of Time", and yet confined to a wheelchair and almost completely paralyzed. Hawking's major contribution to science has been to integrate the two great theories of 20th-century physics - Einstein's General Theory of Relativity and Quantum Mechanics. J.P. McEvoy and Oscar Zarate's brilliant graphic guide explores Hawking's life, the evolution of his work from his days as a student, and his breathtaking discoveries about where these fundamental laws break down or overlap, such as on the edge of a Black Hole or at the origin of the Universe itself.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'An ideal introduction' Independent 'Astonishingly comprehensive - clearer than Hawking himself' Focus

J.P. McEvoy is a former research scientist and now a science journalist. Oscar Zarate is one of the UK's leading graphic artists. He has illustrated numerous Introducing titles. His graphic novel A Small Killing won the Will Eisner Prize.

McEvoy & Zarate's Introducing Stephen Hawking (ISH) is as clear as clarity gets. I came to it well

read in the history of science in general and of mathematics and physics in particular as well as all manner of out-of-date textbooks with all the pain that such reading entails. Though to read is not to comprehend, the bit of light that trickles through is a keen pleasure. Habit being a daunting foe as well as a mightily generous friend, I am slowly but surely clambering onto a seat whence I can read physics and poetry with near equal bewilderment and illiteracy and innumeracy. It helps to love staring at text--even in letters or ideograms that look like bad jokes.ISH is not only easier and clearer than Paradise Lost or the Iliad, it covers larger ground in a tenth the length of either. The book has nailed in place for me all the primary images from Sig. Galileo to Hawking. Git the book, read it, and you'll experience a similar gratitude to the one I have toward McEvoy & Zarate. And, Hurray for Great Britania for her obsession with Introducing... (I ain't no Brit either. Not by a long shot)

This book has a comic book feel to it which makes it enjoyable, easy to follow, and hard to put down. This book is perfect for visual learners and makes it easy to relate to. Definitely recommend this book for class or just to expand ones own knowledge, its really a great book!!!

I like this book because it remind me of a comic book. It was really interesting to read and I am not a science person at all.

Not only did I find this book very interesting but I learned more about black holes than I knew before. It is relatively easy to understand (the illustrations are helpful) and no mathematics. Good for anyone interested in cosmology and Hawking.

I was a bit reluctant to like this book when I first read it because of its abundance of cartoons that appeared to be quite cheaply drawn. It also belonged to part of a larger series of 'Introducing' books and I'm always reluctant to like those because they always seem to be directed towards making a profit rather than providing good information.Contrary to my first impressions, the book was actually fairly good and informative. It covers a good part of Stephen Hawking's life as well as some background in fundamentals of physics so you can grasp some of his ideas. Although soem cartoons are completely gratuitous others actually provide extra clarification on the ideas expressed.The book gives a very broad overview over Stephen Hawking's ideas. Specifically his theories concerning black hole radiation. Some stuff was a bit hard for me to grasp (atleast to understand all the little details was near impossible) but the book illustrates the general ideas very

well :)

I read this book as a science work, not as a promotional biography.As popular writings of modern physics go this is a rather good account of modern cosmology. The author has a physics background thus making the science fairly honest. The writing is linear with ample asides to bring the reader up to speed on important concepts. The brevity of the writing bespeaks compatification, not loss.The problem is that Hawking wants to win the Nobel Prize something fierce. The author is out to lend his support to a fellow Britisher by publishing this unabashed Nobel promo (the closing pages give a summation of why Hawking should win the big one). As far as the cartoony format goes the caricatures seem to be directed at those physicists and religious figures (generally dead) the author wants to relegate to supporting roles to the great one. If you can get around these prejudices you will find a good read.

After picking this up in a bookstore in Chicago, I couldn't stop reading it after I had started. The book combines interviews with Hawking along with biographical information and excellent cartoon illustrations and black & white photos to explain how modern thoughts on physics and black holes were developed. I've used some of the information from this book to teach my high school Physics class about black holes, and I hope to use it more in the future. The book sort of ends without much explanation of the COBE background explorer, but other than that, it's full of essential information presented in a format that is easy and fun to read.

Cartoons, comic book style, sumo wrestlers - all these will from now on be associated with astronomy and quantum theory, thanks to this book. If like me you are just reading for general interest this book will explain it all, but without bogging it down with detail. A good read, and now I feel confident to read Hawkings book 'A brief history of time'.

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