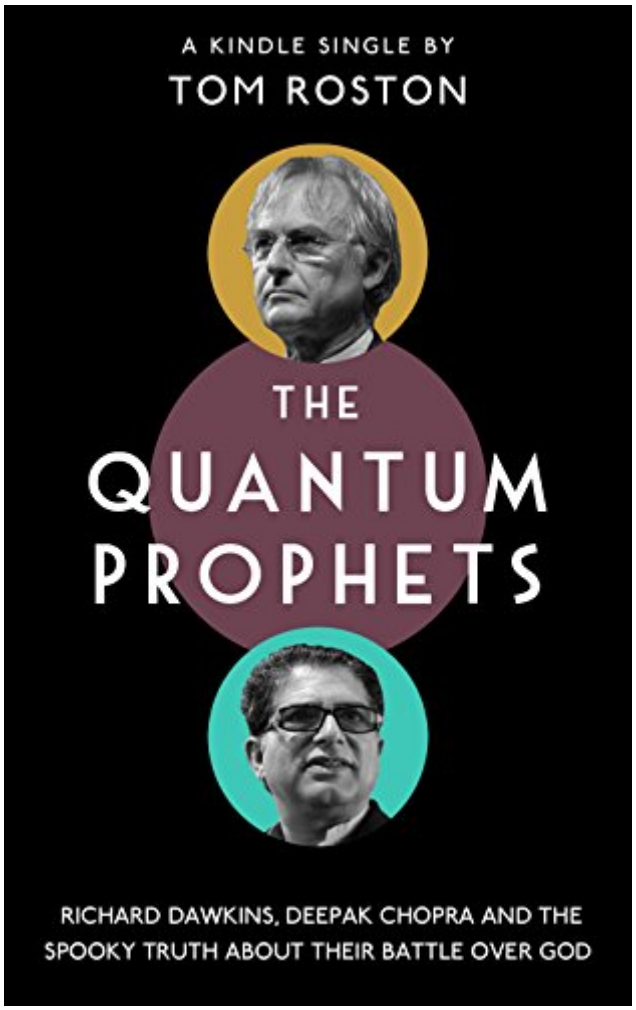
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The Quantum Prophets: Richard Dawkins, Deepak Chopra And The Spooky Truth About Their Battle Over God (Kindle Single)



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Synopsis

Richard Dawkins and Deepak Chopra are two of the most famous Big Thinkers of our time. And yet their deeply acrimonious, decade-long battle over God, human consciousness and "quantum healing" has gone unchronicled until now. Dawkins, a best-selling author and evolutionary biologist who coined the term "meme," has staked his name on the cause of militant atheism. Chopra, a mind-body guru with a global following that has included the likes of Michael Jackson and Lady Gaga, has increasingly set his sites on the scientific status quo.Author Tom Roston seeks to uncover what lies beneath their provocative war of ideas in this intimate story of his search to understand his own spirituality and science’s hard questions. He travels from Toronto to California to the Quantock Hills in Somerset, England, to Puebla, Mexico, chasing these two alternately fascinating and infuriating men, wrestling with their ideas, and coming up with his own.Tom Roston is a veteran journalist who began his career at The Nation and Vanity Fair magazines, before working at Premiere magazine as a senior editor. He is now a freelance writer and frequent contributor to The New York Times. He writes a regular blog about nonfiction filmmaking on PBS.org. He lives with his wife and their two daughters in New York City.Ã Â Cover design by Evan Twohy.

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Customer Reviews

This is an interesting short book about the different philosophies of two men on opposite sides of the debate between science and religion. The author reveals how each man, Dawkins and Chopra, exhibit their own narrow-mindedness and unwillingness to see the others' side. Ultimately it shows that no matter ow intelligent or enlightened we are, we are all limited by our ability to expand our limits beyond what we want to believe.

Focusing on the epic spat between Deepak Chopra and Richard Dawkins, Roston explores the thoughts and writings of many of the great philosophers and scientists, both contemporary and historical, who have examined the nature of what, if anything, it means to be human and the essence of consciousness and spirituality.Throughout the book, Dawkins comes across as a sort of atheist Torquemada - completely intolerant and ready to burn at the stake anyone who does not toe his scientific line. Chopra starts out as a more sympathetic character and is certainly more likeable than the smug Dawkins (I know who IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢d rather grab a beer with). By the end of the book, however, both protagonists are portrayed as entrenched in their philosophies, perhaps even a tad unwillingly on ChopraÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s side, and their communities are the poorer because of it.Some of the most enjoyable parts of the book came from the authorÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s descriptions of his spiritual experiences, but the best moments are in his interactions with the ensemble cast of philosophers and scientists, as well as the groupies who travel in the orbit of the stars. RostonÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s descriptions of these colorful characters are superb, reminding me of Jim Holt's, "Why Does the World Exist?" . The most interesting of them are the ones who are the most open-minded, and I wish that there was more exploration of their thoughts or at least a good reference to their works at the end (but it is a Single!).An earlier reviewer noted that the book is tainted by the authorÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s acceptance of a grant from ChopraÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s foundation in order to fund the project. This is noted very early in the book, along with what might have been a slight leaning towards the Chopra camp. However, I think itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s clear by the end of the book that the grant did not impact the objectivity of the author. He seems to have brought an open mind as well as a willingness to learn and to enjoy the journey, without knowing his final destination. I think you will too.

Entertaining and insightful read. I have read both gentleman's work and find both valid. By that I

mean, I mostly agree and subscribe to their opinions. I had the (use multiple adjectives here) fortune to hear Chopra speak in person in Cape Town, South Africa more than a decade ago. It was, in my 53 years, the single most inspiring talk and delivered with unmatched eloquence. Yes, absolutelyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¦There are gaps (and admittedly many of them) in their arguments. But for a South African born and raised in a fundamentalist society (to put it mildly), they represent a glimpse into the realm of infinite possibilities. Dawkins; for what we are capable of when we discard the oppression of reliance on, as Chopra calls it: ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“... a dead white man in the skyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• (quoted slightly out of context.) And Chopra for the endless probing into the possibilities of biology and consciousness. When he first spoke about intelligent cells (simply put) I could hear my synapses scream ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“EurekaÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•! Over the years I developed a distaste in anything radical ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ an army of Atheists ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ and DawkinsÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s views are just too ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“in your faceÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s ok dude, we agree with you but why go extreme? Nothing is set in stone. I prefer ChopraÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s more fluid approach. His openness to possibilities. He acknowledges that some of his postulations are perhaps just that - hypothesis. But until fairly recently that is just what the Higgs Boson was. Both these gentlemen deserve to be financially rewarded for their efforts and I believe that indictments against either (from either of them) of making money of an unsuspecting public is needless. If anyone should be hanged, drawn and quartered for doing just that then Benny Hinn and TB Joshua and their multitude of cronies across the globe should be first on the list.

An engaging inquiry into the Consciousness/Materialist debate personified by Deepak Chopra & Richard Dawkins. Author Tom Roston delivers a surprisingly self-revelatory examination of pop philosophy’s current conundrum. Highly recommended!

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!!! This is SUCH a great read. Forget what you thought you knew about existence, spirituality, atheism and the Big Man Upstairs & let yourself be challenged by the ideas that Roston deftly considers & dissects for you in this fascinating book. Ever wonder why you think what you think? Have ideas about the universe that are hard to put into words? By going deeply into the minds of guru cum entrepreneur Deepak Chopra and pugilistic British atheist Richard Dawkins, Roston is able to capture the most essential truths of their respective philosophies, and share them smartly, in a fun & engaging way. Personal reporting about his own grappling with the Big Questions is nicely balanced with in-depth analysis/depiction of religion, quantum physics, spiritual retreats,

business meetings & even The Goldilocks Effect. Would make a great "Intro To Religion 101" reading pack supplement for college students.

This book chronicles the Chopra - Dawkins contemporary incarnation of the timeless debate over the existence of God and proving the existence of God. In many ways this book frames the present-day split between faith and science, without being dogmatic.This was a thought-provoking and accessible read. Enjoy.

It seemed to me that the author didn't take the time to understand either side of the debate, luckily , it is a quick read.

Tom Roston, an interesting read

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