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The First Three Minutes: A Modern View Of The Origin Of The Universe





Synopsis

This classic of contemporary science writing by a Nobel Prize winning physicist explains what happened when the universe began, and how we know. According to the latest cosmological knowledge, Weinberg describes the universe as originating in fractions of a second. He divides the early universe into six frames, some lasting less than a second while others extend for more than a minute, and details the incredible energetic reactions that took place within each frame. This is an excellent primer for anyone interested in the beginning of the world by one of our best science writers. From the Big Bang to string theory, dark matter to the theory of relativity, this book covers a range of fascinating subjects written in language that will apeal to science enthusiasts and general readers alike." --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition Listening Length: 5 hours and 22 minutes Program Type: Audiobook Version: Unabridged Publisher: Blackstone Audio, Inc. Audible.com Release Date: December 16, 2004 Language: English ASIN: B000776JJC Best Sellers Rank: #14 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Science > Astronomy #67 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Science > Physics #193 in Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Astronomy

Customer Reviews

Stephen Weinberg received his Ph.D. in theoretical physics from Harvard university and has taught at the university of Texas for decades. He won the Nobel prize in physics in 1979 and has worked with such distinguished personages as the late Richard P. Feynman. In short, he is one of the leading minds in his field. The First Three Minutes is an unusual book in astronomy / cosmology because it is now over 20 years old & yet it is STILL one of the classics of the "story" of the universe for the layman & non-expert. The book takes us on an exhilerating journey all the way back to the Plank epoch (10[^]-43 seconds after the Big Bang). Weinberg also deals with Einstein's theory of Relativity (which predicted the Big Bang), the Hubble Red Shift (the discovery that the universe is expanding) as well as the detection of the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) in the 1960's by

Ralph Wilson and Arno Penzias. All three of these factors, plus numerous other details all form the foundation for the way most scientists think about our universe (presently known as the Big Bang theory). One of the things about Weinberg that I admire is that, like Carl Sagan, he concedes that he MIGHT be wrong, but that what he has to work with is the best paradigm available. This is brutally honest & also quite a refreshing approach. I tire quickly of reading science books that are written by individuals who are so conceited as to believe they know everything there is to know. One certainly does not have to worry about that type of arrogance with Weinberg. So, if you even have a passing interest in cosmology, I would HIGHLY recommend this book.

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