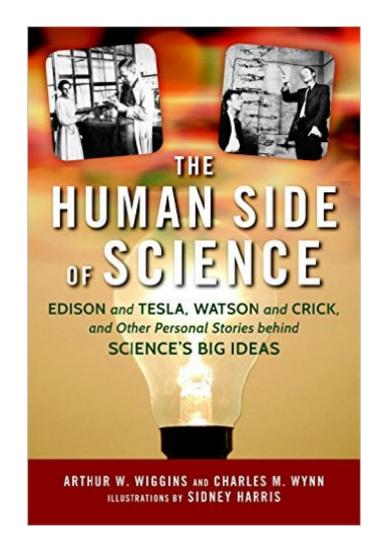
The book was found

The Human Side Of Science: Edison And Tesla, Watson And Crick, And Other Personal Stories Behind Science's Big Ideas





Synopsis

This lively and humorous book focuses attention on the fact that science is a human enterprise. The reader learns about the foibles and quirks as well as the admirable ingenuity and impressive accomplishments of famous scientists who made some of the greatest discoveries of the past and present. Examples abound: James Watson and Francis Crick formed a legendary partnership that led to the discovery of DNA, but they essentially ignored the contribution of female colleague Rosalind Franklin. Later, in the race to sequence the human genome, Watson criticized J. Craig Venterâ [™]s technique as a process that â œcould be run by monkeys.â • Nikola Tesla once worked for Thomas Edison, but then quit after a dispute about a bonus. Robert Hooke accused Isaac Newton of stealing his ideas about optics. Plato declared that the works of Democritus should be burned. With tongue-in-cheek illustrations by renowned science cartoonist Sidney Harris, this book takes the reader behind the scenes of scientific research to shine new light on the all-too-human people who â œdoâ • science.

Book Information

Hardcover: 360 pages Publisher: Prometheus Books; 1St Edition edition (April 19, 2016) Language: English ISBN-10: 1633881563 ISBN-13: 978-1633881563 Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.3 x 9.3 inches Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (7 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #257,500 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Science & Scientists #558 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Scientists #1360 in Books > Science & Math > History & Philosophy

Customer Reviews

Far from being a dry treatise, this book is thoroughly enjoyable reading and frequently eye opening. The ways some great scientific discoveries or inventions happened or almost didn't happen are wonderfully summed up on the human side--and it is amazing some of them occurred at all, because of squabbles, jealousies, angers, romances, affairs, competitions and even dirty tricks among experimenters, researchers, thinkers and other great minds that we hold in high esteem today. In short, the eminent thinkers behaved pretty much like the rest of us when they weren't pondering big ideas, big mysteries or big breakthroughs. This text from the authors' introduction gives a good summation of what's in store inside this fine book: "...some people believe science operates in a cut-and-dried fashion, with rational logic always prevailing. Those people are mistaken. There are elephants in science's rooms. All the steps in the scientific method involve (italics)people(end italics). And you know what that means. The seemingly well-defined procedural steps of the scientific method are, when put into practice, actually fuzzy--and subject to the full range of human foibles." The authors don't just focus on the negative side of the human equation, fortunately. There also are looks at friendship-based collaborations among scientists and others that brought solid and beneficial results. And there are vignettes that help bring some of the great minds into sharper focus as connected, positive human beings. Albert Einstein, for example, was an outspoken opponent of racism against African-Americans and joined the NAACP in 1942. He also did not let fame and awards go to his head. He once insisted: "Whoever undertakes to set himself up as a judge of Truth and Knowledge is shipwrecked by the laughter of the gods." (My thanks to Prometheus Books for providing a review copy.)

Wiggins, and his colleagues Charles Wynn and Sydney Harris, have written and illustrated another winning popular science book for non-scientists; although I know that many scientists would thoroughly enjoy the book as well. Thereâ [™]s not an equation in the book -- well almost none if you donâ [™]t count E=mc^2 -- to distract the reader from the fast moving story lines. Reading about the human, every day foibles of scientists during their discovery process and in their personal lives (the good and bad interactions) I found fascinating. To realize that they are human beings (as the title implies) and not superheroes is also very nice to read about in a well-researched work and not just as anecdotal accounts. I was also fascinated by the connections from one scientist to another that I was never aware of until Wiggins put it all together. I highly recommend The Human Side of Science to science lovers of any age.

Over the centuries, in trying to push back the frontiers of scientific knowledge, some humans have taken giant leaps while others have badly stumbled, but most can be found somewhere in between. In this mesmerizing and authoritative book, the authors have recounted a great many stories from the archives of scientific accomplishments with a slant on, well, their human side. Consequently, these include quite a number of mini-biographies of key individuals, as well as brief descriptions or comments on their personalities and their interactions with their peers. Nevertheless, the scientific

principles/discoveries involved are very well described as well. The prose is very clear, highly accessible, lively, often humorous and immensely captivating. And, in my opinion, the Sidney Harris cartoons that are included throughout the book add a delightful touch. Anyone can enjoy this wonderful book, but science enthusiasts like me should be in for a special treat.

Familiar names and great achievements we all recognize, other facts perhaps forgotten, come to life in this extensive, terse account of the Western World's achievements propelling mankind into mastery and understanding of our universe. Drawings and sidelights embellish what is basically a story of individuals, their achievements their lives and times. Informative as well as a great read. Suitable as a reference for dates, places, and persons from ancient Greece to twenty first century. Extensive references for the curious reader looking beyond.

Download to continue reading...

The Human Side of Science: Edison and Tesla, Watson and Crick, and Other Personal Stories behind Science's Big Ideas Tesla Vs Edison: The Life-Long Feud that Electrified the World Nikola Tesla's Earthquake Machine: With Tesla's Original Patents Plus New Blueprints to Build Your Own Working Model The Big Switch: Rewiring the World, from Edison to Google Ouija Board Stories: Chilling True Horror Stories Of Ouija Boards Gone Wrong (Ouija Board Stories, Ghost Stories, True Horror Stories, Ouija Board Nightmares, Haunted Places Book 1) The Encyclopaedia Sherlockiana; or, A Universal Dictionary of the State of Knowledge of Sherlock Holmes and His Biographer, John H. Watson, M.D. Watson's Classic Book on The Play of the Hand at Bridge Student Solutions Manual for Stewart/Redlin/Watson's Precalculus: Mathematics for Calculus, 7th Getting Started with Intel Edison: Sensors, Actuators, Bluetooth, and Wi-Fi on the Tiny Atom-Powered Linux Module (Make : Technology on Your Time) ADHD and the Edison Gene: A Drug-Free Approach to Managing the Unique Qualities of Your Child The Gospels Side-by-Side Side by Side: Student Book 1, Third Edition Side by Side Book 1 (Bk. 1) GAY: 13 STORIES OF MAN ON MAN (GAY MM ROMANCE, GAY BDSM, FIRST TIME, MM/MMM MULTIPLE PARTNER, FORBIDDEN TALES, STEAMY TABOO STORIES, ALPHA MALES TOO BIG TO FIT IN, GAY MENAGE THREESOME STORIES) There's More to Life Than This: Healing Messages, Remarkable Stories, and Insight About the Other Side from the Long Island Medium Afterlife: What Really Happens on the Other Side: True Stories of Contact and Communication with Spirits Bizarre True Stories: Weird And Unusual True Stories Of The Paranormal, Strange Sightings, Eerie True Ghost Stories And Unexplained Phenomena (True Paranormal ... True Ghost Stories And Hauntings) Ghost Stories: Petrifying True Ghost Stories Of The Undead And Their Supernatural Tales (Ghost Stories, True

Ghost Stories, Conspiracy Theories, True Ghost ... And Hauntings, Haunted Asylums, Book 1) True Ghost Stories And Hauntings: Horrifying True Paranormal Hauntings From The Last 300 Years: Creepy True Ghost Stories And Accounts (True Ghost Stories, True Paranormal, Bizarre True Stories) Behind the Secrets (Behind the Lives Book 4)

<u>Dmca</u>