

9-2013

## Book Review: Heart of Darkness: Unraveling the Mysteries of the Invisible Universe

T. D. Oswalt

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, [oswaltt1@erau.edu](mailto:oswaltt1@erau.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.erau.edu/publication>



Part of the [Cosmology, Relativity, and Gravity Commons](#)

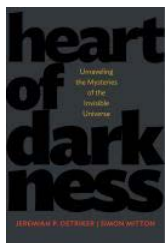
---

### Scholarly Commons Citation

Oswalt, T. D. (2013). Book Review: Heart of Darkness: Unraveling the Mysteries of the Invisible Universe. *Choice Reviews*, 51(1). <https://doi.org/10.5860/CHOICE.51-0259>

Reprinted with permission from CHOICE [www.choicereviews.org](http://www.choicereviews.org), copyright by the American Library Association. This Review is brought to you for free and open access by Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Publications by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [commons@erau.edu](mailto:commons@erau.edu).

## Heart of darkness : unraveling the mysteries of the invisible universe



Ostriker, Jeremiah P. by Jeremiah P. Ostriker and Simon Mitton Princeton, 2013

299p, 9780691134307 \$27.95, 9781400844647 \$27.95

LC Call Number: [QB982](#)

As the title suggests, *Heart of Darkness* is a mystery story. Ostriker (Princeton Univ.), a pioneer in cosmology, and Mitton (Univ. of Cambridge, UK), an astronomer and an exceptionally talented science writer, sleuth out the clues and witnesses to nothing less than the darkest secrets of the universe. The current quest to determine the nature of dark matter and dark energy has its roots in Copernicus's early notion that the Earth need not be at the center of the solar system. From this foundation, the authors introduce the reader to a host of witnesses and suspects throughout history, many of whom have received less appreciation than they deserve in other books on cosmology. Here is a new and welcome perspective on modern cosmology that any reader can easily grasp and appreciate. Excellent archival photos and a very useful appendix that clearly and simply explains some of the essential mathematical concepts add to the pleasure of reading this book. Written with authority and flair, this is one of the very best books on the topic. Recommended reading for any science buff!

Summing Up: Essential. All levels/libraries.

Reviewer: [T. D. Oswalt](#), Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Recommendation: Essential

Readership Level: All Readership Levels, General Readers, Lower-division Undergraduates, Upper-division Undergraduates, Graduate Students, Researchers/Faculty, Two-Year Technical Program Students, Professionals/Practitioners

Interdisciplinary Subjects:

Subject: [Science & Technology - Astronautics & Astronomy](#)

Choice Issue: sep 2013 vol. 51 no. 1