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Book Review: Strange Matters: Undiscovered Ideas at the Frontiers of Space and Time

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Strange matters : undiscovered ideas at the frontiers of space and time



Siegfried, Tom. John Henry, 2002 307p, 0-309-08407-5 \$24.95

LC Call Number: QB981

Siegfried undertakes the intimidating challenge of explaining some of the toughest problems that physicists and astronomers currently are struggling to solve. Readers will explore a veritable zoo of weird particles, mirror matter, dark matter and energy, multiple universes, and more in the borderland between particle physics and cosmology. Many of these concepts seemed radical only a few years ago--and some still are. Siegfried (science editor, *Dallas Morning News*) does a good job of distinguishing between the two. This is basically an account of the quest for an understanding of the most fundamental nature of the physical universe. In most of the largely independent chapters, Siegfried begins with a historical perspective and quickly extrapolates to what the future-accepted paradigm might be. The introduction aptly calls the book "a guide to the pre-discoveries of the twentieth century." Expect a twisted, convoluted story, just like the real universe! Die-hard science buffs will find the book hard to put down.

Summing Up: Highly recommended. General readers; lower-division undergraduate through graduate students; two-year technical program students.

Reviewer: T. D. Oswalt, Florida Institute of Technology Recommendation: Highly recommended Readership Level: General Readers, Lower-division Undergraduates, Upper-division Undergraduates, Graduate Students, Two-Year Technical Program Students Interdisciplinary Subjects: Subject: Science & Technology - Astronautics & Astronomy Choice Issue: mar 2003 vol. 40 no. 7 Choice Review #: 40-3986