

american cosmic

american cosmic is a phrase that has gained significant attention in recent years, particularly within the realms of science, spirituality, technology, and popular culture. As interest in the intersection of UFOs, extraterrestrial life, and the evolution of human consciousness grows, "american cosmic" has become a reference point for exploring the unique relationship between American society and cosmic phenomena. This article delves into the origins and meaning of american cosmic, its connections to academic research, its influence on pop culture, and its role in contemporary discussions about science and spirituality. Readers will uncover the historical roots of american cosmic, its impact on public perception, and the debates it has sparked among researchers, technologists, and enthusiasts. By the end of this comprehensive guide, you will have a full understanding of the term, its significance, and why it continues to shape conversations about the mysteries of the universe.

- Understanding the Meaning of American Cosmic
- Historical Background and Origins
- American Cosmic in Academic Research
- Influence on Pop Culture and Media
- The Intersection of Science, Technology, and Spirituality
- Controversies and Debates Surrounding American Cosmic
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Understanding the Meaning of American Cosmic

The term "american cosmic" refers to a broad and evolving concept that encompasses the relationship between American culture and cosmic phenomena, especially UFOs, extraterrestrial intelligence, and the search for meaning beyond our planet. It is often used to describe the unique way American society integrates science, technology, spirituality, and popular culture in its exploration of the unknown. The phrase has become associated with both academic investigation and pop-cultural fascination, serving as a lens through which people interpret mysterious events and experiences.

At its core, american cosmic highlights the blend of skepticism and wonder that characterizes American attitudes toward the possibility of life beyond Earth. This duality is seen in the country's scientific advancements, the popularity of science fiction, and the rise of new spiritual movements inspired by cosmic themes. The concept also addresses how American values—such as innovation, freedom, and inquiry—inform the way society approaches questions about the universe and our place within it.

Historical Background and Origins

Early Encounters and Cultural Foundations

The origins of american cosmic can be traced back to the mid-20th century, when UFO sightings and reports of alien encounters began to capture the imagination of the American public. The 1947 sighting in Roswell, New Mexico, is often cited as a pivotal moment that launched the modern UFO era. This event, along with others, sparked a wave of interest, media coverage, and government investigation, laying the foundation for the ongoing fascination with cosmic mysteries.

Development Over Time

As the decades passed, American cosmic evolved to include not just sightings and encounters, but also philosophical and scientific inquiries into the nature of consciousness, technology, and the universe. Researchers, writers, and thought leaders began to explore the implications of extraterrestrial contact, often blending scientific rigor with spiritual curiosity. This evolution mirrored broader societal changes, such as the space race, the rise of the internet, and shifts in religious beliefs.

American Cosmic in Academic Research

Key Scholars and Influential Works

Academic interest in American cosmic has grown significantly, with scholars from fields such as religious studies, anthropology, and physics examining the phenomenon. Notably, Diana Walsh Pasulka's book "American Cosmic: UFOs, Religion, Technology" investigates how belief in extraterrestrial life influences modern spirituality and technological innovation. Pasulka's work highlights the interconnectedness of faith, science, and culture in shaping American cosmic narratives.

Research Themes and Findings

- The role of media in shaping public perception of cosmic phenomena
- How technological advancements influence belief systems
- Comparisons between historical religious experiences and modern UFO encounters
- The psychological impact of cosmic mysteries on American identity

Academic studies often reveal that American cosmic is not merely a product of imagination or folklore, but a complex synthesis of collective experiences, scientific exploration, and evolving worldviews. Researchers continue to debate whether the phenomenon represents genuine contact with extraterrestrial intelligence or a new form of myth-making in the digital age.

Influence on Pop Culture and Media

Film, Television, and Literature

American cosmic has profoundly influenced pop culture, inspiring countless films, television series, books, and art. Blockbuster movies such as "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial," and "Arrival" reflect society's curiosity and anxieties about cosmic visitors. Television shows like "The X-Files" and "Ancient Aliens" popularize theories about UFOs and alien influence on human history.

Music, Art, and Social Media

Musicians and artists have also embraced American cosmic themes, using cosmic imagery and symbolism in their work. Social media platforms amplify discussions and theories, enabling communities to share experiences and interpretations. The internet has democratized access to information about UFOs and cosmic phenomena, making it easier for enthusiasts to connect and collaborate.

The Intersection of Science, Technology, and Spirituality

Scientific Exploration and Innovation

American cosmic intersects with cutting-edge scientific research, particularly in astrophysics, artificial intelligence, and consciousness studies. Organizations such as NASA and SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) embody the American drive to explore the cosmos using advanced technology and rigorous methodology. The quest for extraterrestrial life is not just a scientific endeavor but also a source of inspiration for technological innovation.

Spirituality and the Search for Meaning

Alongside scientific pursuits, American cosmic is deeply entwined with spiritual exploration. Many Americans view cosmic phenomena as evidence of higher intelligence or a divine presence, leading to new spiritual movements and beliefs. The integration of technology and spirituality is a hallmark of American cosmic, reflecting society's desire to find meaning in the mysteries of the universe.

Controversies and Debates Surrounding American Cosmic

Government Secrecy and Disclosure

One of the most debated aspects of American cosmic is the role of government secrecy and disclosure. Allegations of hidden UFO evidence, classified research projects, and whistleblower testimonies fuel public speculation and mistrust. Periodic government releases of declassified documents reignite discussions about transparency and accountability.

Skepticism vs. Belief

The American cosmic phenomenon is also marked by a tension between skepticism and belief. While some individuals and organizations demand scientific proof of extraterrestrial contact, others argue that

personal experiences and anecdotal evidence are equally valid. This debate extends into academic circles, with scholars disagreeing on the significance and interpretation of cosmic events.

Why American Cosmic Captivates Society

Cultural and Psychological Factors

American cosmic continues to captivate society due to its ability to address fundamental questions about existence, identity, and the future. The phenomenon taps into deep-seated cultural narratives about exploration, innovation, and the unknown. Psychological factors, such as the human need for wonder and connection, further fuel interest in cosmic mysteries.

Ongoing Relevance and Future Directions

1. Increasing scientific discoveries about the universe
2. Growing public interest in space exploration and technology
3. The rise of new spiritual movements inspired by cosmic themes
4. Persistent debates about government transparency and disclosure
5. The influence of pop culture in shaping perceptions

As new discoveries and technological advancements continue to emerge, the concept of American cosmic will likely remain a central topic in discussions about humanity's place in the universe.

Trending and Relevant Questions and Answers About American Cosmic

Q: What does the term "american cosmic" mean?

A: "American cosmic" refers to the unique intersection of American culture, science, technology, spirituality, and popular media in the exploration and interpretation of cosmic phenomena such as UFOs and extraterrestrial life.

Q: Who is Diana Walsh Pasulka and how is she associated with american cosmic?

A: Diana Walsh Pasulka is a scholar and author of the influential book "American Cosmic: UFOs, Religion, Technology," which examines how belief in extraterrestrial life shapes modern American spirituality and technological innovation.

Q: Why has american cosmic become a popular topic in recent years?

A: American cosmic has gained popularity due to increased public interest in UFOs, government disclosures, advancements in space technology, and the blending of scientific and spiritual perspectives in American society.

Q: How has american cosmic influenced pop culture?

A: American cosmic has inspired numerous films, television series, books, music, and art, shaping public imagination and cultural narratives around UFOs, aliens, and cosmic mysteries.

Q: What are some controversies associated with american cosmic?

A: Controversies include debates over government secrecy, the authenticity of UFO sightings, the validity of personal experiences, and disagreements between skeptics and believers regarding the existence of extraterrestrial intelligence.

Q: How does american cosmic relate to scientific research?

A: American cosmic is closely tied to scientific research in astrophysics, consciousness studies, and technology, with organizations like NASA and SETI leading efforts to explore the universe and search for extraterrestrial life.

Q: What role does spirituality play in american cosmic?

A: Spirituality is a key component of american cosmic, as many people interpret cosmic phenomena as evidence of higher intelligence or divine presence, leading to new spiritual movements and beliefs.

Q: Why is american cosmic important to American identity?

A: American cosmic reflects core American values such as curiosity, innovation, and the pursuit of knowledge, shaping the nation's approach to cosmic mysteries and the search for meaning.

Q: What does the future hold for american cosmic?

A: The future of american cosmic will likely involve ongoing scientific discoveries, evolving spiritual perspectives, continued public fascination, and new debates about humanity's place in the universe.

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American Cosmic: Exploring the Myths, Legends, and Manifest Destiny of a Nation's Imagination

The vast, star-dusted expanse of the American landscape has always fueled a powerful, almost mythical, narrative. From the Pilgrims' arrival to the space race, the "American Dream" has been intertwined with a sense of cosmic destiny, a belief in exceptionalism that extends beyond earthly boundaries. This post delves into the concept of "American Cosmic," exploring how this potent blend of mythology, ambition, and manifest destiny has shaped the nation's identity and continues to resonate in its culture and politics. We'll unravel the interwoven threads of frontier narratives, religious fervor, technological advancement, and space exploration to understand this unique and enduring aspect of the American experience.

H2: The Frontier Myth and the Expansion of the American Cosmic Narrative

The westward expansion, a defining chapter in American history, fueled the "American Cosmic" narrative profoundly. The frontier, a seemingly limitless expanse of land, symbolized opportunity, freedom, and a divine mandate for conquest. This wasn't merely geographical expansion; it was a spiritual journey, a belief in a chosen nation fulfilling a preordained destiny. Think of the paintings of the Hudson River School, depicting sublime landscapes that evoked a sense of awe and national pride, solidifying the idea of America as a divinely blessed land. This sense of boundless possibility became intrinsically linked to the American identity, shaping the very fabric of its national psyche.

H4: Manifest Destiny and its Cosmic Implications

The doctrine of Manifest Destiny, the belief in the inherent right of the United States to expand its dominion across North America, exemplifies this cosmic ambition. It wasn't just about land acquisition; it was about spreading American values, democracy, and, arguably, a sense of divinely ordained superiority. This ideology, while problematic in its treatment of Indigenous populations, firmly established the notion of America as a nation with a unique and expansive destiny, written in the stars, as it were.

H2: Religion and the American Cosmic Vision

Religious fervor played a significant role in shaping the "American Cosmic" narrative. The Puritans' belief in a covenant with God, their exodus to the New World, and their subsequent establishment of communities shaped by religious principles laid the foundation for a uniquely American relationship with the divine. This sense of a chosen people on a sacred mission continued to inform subsequent waves of immigration and expansion, contributing to a powerful narrative of national destiny guided by a higher power.

H4: The City Upon a Hill and its Enduring Influence

John Winthrop's famous "City upon a Hill" sermon, delivered in 1630, became a foundational text for the American Cosmic narrative. The vision of a model society, a beacon of light to the world, established an aspirational goal that transcended earthly limitations, resonating with a sense of divinely ordained purpose. This vision has been invoked throughout American history, shaping its foreign policy and its self-perception on the world stage.

H2: Technology and the Conquest of Space: Reaching for the Stars

The 20th and 21st centuries witnessed a new chapter in the American Cosmic narrative: the conquest of space. The space race, driven by Cold War competition and a desire to demonstrate technological superiority, cemented the image of America as a nation pushing the boundaries of human potential, reaching for the stars. This ambition to explore and conquer the cosmos became a powerful symbol of American exceptionalism, reinforcing the idea of a nation destined for greatness, even beyond the confines of its planet.

H4: NASA and the Cultural Impact of Space Exploration

NASA's achievements, from the Apollo moon landings to the ongoing exploration of Mars, have deeply embedded themselves in the American consciousness. These technological triumphs not only advanced scientific knowledge but also fueled the imagination, further solidifying the narrative of American exceptionalism and its cosmic destiny. The images of astronauts planting the American flag on the moon became iconic symbols of national pride and ambition, reinforcing the "American Cosmic" narrative on a global scale.

H2: The American Cosmic Today: Challenges and Continued Relevance

The "American Cosmic" narrative is not without its complexities and contradictions. The historical injustices associated with Manifest Destiny, the ongoing debates surrounding American exceptionalism, and the ethical implications of technological advancement challenge the simplistic interpretations of this narrative. However, the core elements of ambition, exploration, and a belief in a unique national destiny continue to resonate within American culture.

The ongoing exploration of space, the pursuit of technological innovation, and the enduring power of the American Dream all speak to the lasting influence of this powerful narrative. Understanding the "American Cosmic" is crucial to comprehending the nation's history, its present, and its future aspirations.

Conclusion

The "American Cosmic" narrative, a complex blend of myth, ambition, and historical reality, offers a compelling lens through which to understand the American identity. From the westward expansion to the space race, this narrative has shaped the nation's self-perception and its role on the world stage. While fraught with complexities and contradictions, understanding its influence is crucial for navigating the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

FAQs:

1. How is the "American Cosmic" different from other national narratives? The "American Cosmic" narrative is unique in its emphasis on exceptionalism, manifest destiny, and a belief in a divinely ordained purpose extending beyond earthly boundaries. While other nations have their own myths and national narratives, the American version has a particularly strong emphasis on expansion, technological advancement, and a sense of unlimited potential.
2. Is the "American Cosmic" narrative inherently problematic? Yes, aspects of the "American Cosmic" narrative, particularly those related to Manifest Destiny and the treatment of Indigenous populations, are undeniably problematic. It's crucial to critically examine these historical injustices and their lasting impact.
3. How does the "American Cosmic" narrative influence American foreign policy? The belief in American exceptionalism and a divinely ordained mission has historically informed American foreign policy, leading to interventions and actions based on a sense of global responsibility and a desire to spread American values.
4. How is the "American Cosmic" narrative reflected in popular culture? The "American Cosmic" narrative is reflected in various aspects of popular culture, including science fiction films, space exploration documentaries, and narratives about westward expansion. These portrayals often reinforce the themes of ambition, exploration, and the pursuit of a better future.
5. What are the future implications of the "American Cosmic" narrative? The future implications of the "American Cosmic" narrative are uncertain. Its influence will likely continue to shape American identity and foreign policy, but the way in which it manifests will depend on how it is reinterpreted and recontextualized in light of contemporary challenges and ethical considerations.

adults and more than seventy-five percent of young Americans believe in intelligent extraterrestrial life. This level of belief rivals that of belief in God. *American Cosmic* examines the mechanisms at work behind the thriving belief system in extraterrestrial life, a system that is changing and even supplanting traditional religions. Over the course of a six-year ethnographic study, D.W. Pasulka interviewed successful and influential scientists, professionals, and Silicon Valley entrepreneurs who believe in extraterrestrial intelligence, thereby disproving the common misconception that only fringe members of society believe in UFOs. She argues that widespread belief in aliens is due to a number of factors including their ubiquity in modern media like *The X-Files*, which can influence memory, and the believability lent to that media by the search for planets that might support life. *American Cosmic* explores the intriguing question of how people interpret unexplainable experiences, and argues that the media is replacing religion as a cultural authority that offers believers answers about non-human intelligent life.

american cosmic: *American Cosmic* Diana Walsh Pasulka, 2019-02 More than half of American adults and more than seventy-five percent of young Americans believe in intelligent extraterrestrial life. This level of belief rivals that of belief in God. *American Cosmic* examines the mechanisms at work behind the thriving belief system in extraterrestrial life, a system that is changing and even supplanting traditional religions. Over the course of a six-year ethnographic study, D.W. Pasulka interviewed successful and influential scientists, professionals, and Silicon Valley entrepreneurs who believe in extraterrestrial intelligence, thereby disproving the common misconception that only fringe members of society believe in UFOs. She argues that widespread belief in aliens is due to a number of factors including their ubiquity in modern media like *The X-Files*, which can influence memory, and the believability lent to that media by the search for planets that might support life. *American Cosmic* explores the intriguing question of how people interpret unexplainable experiences, and argues that the media is replacing religion as a cultural authority that offers believers answers about non-human intelligent life.

american cosmic: *American Cosmic* D.W. Pasulka, 2019-01-18 More than half of American adults and more than seventy-five percent of young Americans believe in intelligent extraterrestrial life. This level of belief rivals that of belief in God. *American Cosmic* examines the mechanisms at work behind the thriving belief system in extraterrestrial life, a system that is changing and even supplanting traditional religions. Over the course of a six-year ethnographic study, D.W. Pasulka interviewed successful and influential scientists, professionals, and Silicon Valley entrepreneurs who believe in extraterrestrial intelligence, thereby disproving the common misconception that only fringe members of society believe in UFOs. She argues that widespread belief in aliens is due to a number of factors including their ubiquity in modern media like *The X-Files*, which can influence memory, and the believability lent to that media by the search for planets that might support life. *American Cosmic* explores the intriguing question of how people interpret unexplainable experiences, and argues that the media is replacing religion as a cultural authority that offers believers answers about non-human intelligent life.

american cosmic: *Cosmic Horizons* Steven Soter, Neil deGrasse Tyson, 2001 Leading scientists offer a collection of essays that furnish illuminating explanations of recent discoveries in modern astrophysics--from the Big Bang to black holes--the possibility of life on other worlds, and the emerging technologies that make such research possible, accompanied by incisive profiles of such key figures as Carl Sagan and Georges Lemaetre. Original.

american cosmic: *A New American Space Plan* Travis S. Taylor, Stephanie Osborn, 2012-11-15 Meet the Rocket City Rednecks. They're five backwoods guys from the rocket city: Huntsville, Alabama, home to NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center and the birthplace of the U.S. space program. Sure, they love to shoot stuff and drink beer, and one of 'em lives in a trailer, but with a family tree full of NASA rocket scientists (not to mention their own PhDs and advanced degrees), they aim a little higher^{3/4}like using homemade moonshine to fuel a rocket! Now, in typical laidback style, Dr. Travis S. Taylor, leader of the crew, delivers the goods on how America can return to space exploration and manned space flight. What's needed is a good old try anything attitude, a bit of

gumption, and the spectacularly entertaining backyard science that's the Rocket City Redneck specialty. At the publisher's request, this title is sold without DRM (Digital Rights Management).

american cosmic: How Outer Space Made America Dr Daniel Sage, 2014-11-28 In this innovatory book Daniel Sage analyses how and why American space exploration reproduced and transformed American cultural and political imaginations by appealing to, and to an extent organizing, the transcendence of spatial and temporal frontiers. While largely engaging with the historical development of space exploration, it shows how contemporary cultural and social, and indeed geographical, research themes, including national identity, critical geopolitics, gender, technocracy, trauma and memory, can be informed by the study of space exploration.

american cosmic: Intimate Alien David J. Halperin, 2020-03-24 A voyage of exploration to the outer reaches of our inner lives. UFOs are a myth, says David J. Halperin—but myths are real. The power and fascination of the UFO has nothing to do with space travel or life on other planets. It's about us, our longings and terrors, and especially the greatest terror of all: the end of our existence. This is a book about UFOs that goes beyond believing in them or debunking them and to a fresh understanding of what they tell us about ourselves as individuals, as a culture, and as a species. In the 1960s, Halperin was a teenage UFOlogist, convinced that flying saucers were real and that it was his life's mission to solve their mystery. He would become a professor of religious studies, with traditions of heavenly journeys his specialty. With *Intimate Alien*, he looks back to explore what UFOs once meant to him as a boy growing up in a home haunted by death and what they still mean for millions, believers and deniers alike. From the prehistoric Balkans to the deserts of New Mexico, from the biblical visions of Ezekiel to modern abduction encounters, *Intimate Alien* traces the hidden story of the UFO. It's a human story from beginning to end, no less mysterious and fantastic for its earthliness. A collective cultural dream, UFOs transport us to the outer limits of that most alien yet intimate frontier, our own inner space.

american cosmic: The New Cosmic Story John F. Haught, 2017-01-01 A foremost thinker on science and religion argues that an adequate understanding of cosmic history requires attention to the emergence of interiority, including religious aspiration Over the past two centuries scientific advances have made it clear that the universe is a story still unfolding. In this thought-provoking book, John F. Haught considers the deeper implications of this discovery. He contends that many others who have written books on life and the universe—including Stephen Hawking, Stephen Jay Gould, and Richard Dawkins—have overlooked a crucial aspect of cosmic history: the drama of life's awakening to interiority and religious awareness. Science may illuminate the outside story of the universe, but a full telling of the cosmic story cannot ignore the inside development that interiority represents. Haught addresses two primary questions: what does the arrival of religion tell us about the universe, and what does our understanding of the cosmos as an unfinished drama tell us about religion? The history of religion may be ambiguous and sometimes even barbarous, he asserts, but its role in the story of cosmic emergence and awakening must be taken into account.

american cosmic: The Disordered Cosmos Chanda Prescod-Weinstein, 2021-03-09 From a star theoretical physicist, a journey into the world of particle physics and the cosmos—and a call for a more liberatory practice of science. Winner of the 2021 Los Angeles Times Book Prize in Science & Technology A Finalist for the 2022 PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award A Smithsonian Magazine Best Science Book of 2021 A Symmetry Magazine Top 10 Physics Book of 2021 An Entropy Magazine Best Nonfiction Book of 2020-2021 A Publishers Weekly Best Nonfiction Book of the Year A Kirkus Reviews Best Nonfiction Book of 2021 A Booklist Top 10 Sci-Tech Book of the Year In *The Disordered Cosmos*, Dr. Chanda Prescod-Weinstein shares her love for physics, from the Standard Model of Particle Physics and what lies beyond it, to the physics of melanin in skin, to the latest theories of dark matter—along with a perspective informed by history, politics, and the wisdom of Star Trek. One of the leading physicists of her generation, Dr. Chanda Prescod-Weinstein is also one of fewer than one hundred Black American women to earn a PhD from a department of physics. Her vision of the cosmos is vibrant, buoyantly nontraditional, and grounded in Black and queer feminist lineages. Dr. Prescod-Weinstein urges us to recognize how science, like most fields, is

rife with racism, misogyny, and other forms of oppression. She lays out a bold new approach to science and society, beginning with the belief that we all have a fundamental right to know and love the night sky. The *Disordered Cosmos* dreams into existence a world that allows everyone to experience and understand the wonders of the universe.

american cosmic: *Cosmos Crumbling* Robert H. Abzug, 1994 Others offered programs of physiological and spiritual self-reform: phrenology, vegetarianism, the water-cure, spiritualism, and miscellaneous others. Even the insect world was to be defended, Emerson mused, and a society for the protection of ground-worms, slugs, and mosquitoes was to be incorporated without delay..

american cosmic: *The Fabric of the Cosmos* Brian Greene, 2007-12-18 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • From one of the world's leading physicists and author of the Pulitzer Prize finalist *The Elegant Universe*, comes "an astonishing ride" through the universe (The New York Times) that makes us look at reality in a completely different way. Space and time form the very fabric of the cosmos. Yet they remain among the most mysterious of concepts. Is space an entity? Why does time have a direction? Could the universe exist without space and time? Can we travel to the past? Greene has set himself a daunting task: to explain non-intuitive, mathematical concepts like String Theory, the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle, and Inflationary Cosmology with analogies drawn from common experience. From Newton's unchanging realm in which space and time are absolute, to Einstein's fluid conception of spacetime, to quantum mechanics' entangled arena where vastly distant objects can instantaneously coordinate their behavior, Greene takes us all, regardless of our scientific backgrounds, on an irresistible and revelatory journey to the new layers of reality that modern physics has discovered lying just beneath the surface of our everyday world.

american cosmic: *The Passage to Cosmos* Laura Dassow Walls, 2009-09-15 Explorer, scientist, writer, and humanist, Alexander von Humboldt was the most famous intellectual of the age that began with Napoleon and ended with Darwin. With *Cosmos*, the book that crowned his career, Humboldt offered to the world his vision of humans and nature as integrated halves of a single whole. In it, Humboldt espoused the idea that, while the universe of nature exists apart from human purpose, its beauty and order, the very idea of the whole it composes, are human achievements: cosmos comes into being in the dance of world and mind, subject and object, science and poetry. Humboldt's science laid the foundations for ecology and inspired the theories of his most important scientific disciple, Charles Darwin. In the United States, his ideas shaped the work of Emerson, Thoreau, Poe, and Whitman. They helped spark the American environmental movement through followers like John Muir and George Perkins Marsh. And they even bolstered efforts to free the slaves and honor the rights of Indians. Laura Dassow Walls here traces Humboldt's ideas for *Cosmos* to his 1799 journey to the Americas, where he first experienced the diversity of nature and of the world's peoples—and envisioned a new cosmopolitanism that would link ideas, disciplines, and nations into a global web of knowledge and cultures. In reclaiming Humboldt's transcultural and transdisciplinary project, Walls situates America in a lively and contested field of ideas, actions, and interests, and reaches beyond to a new worldview that integrates the natural and social sciences, the arts, and the humanities. To the end of his life, Humboldt called himself "half an American," but ironically his legacy has largely faded in the United States. *The Passage to Cosmos* will reintroduce this seminal thinker to a new audience and return America to its rightful place in the story of his life, work, and enduring legacy.

american cosmic: *Cosmic Jackpot* Paul Davies, 2007-04-11 *Cosmic Jackpot* is Paul Davies's eagerly awaited return to cosmology, the successor to his critically acclaimed bestseller *The Mind of God*. Here he tackles all the big questions, including the biggest of them all: Why does the universe seem so well adapted for life? In his characteristically clear and elegant style, Davies shows how recent scientific discoveries point to a perplexing fact: many different aspects of the cosmos, from the properties of the humble carbon atom to the speed of light, seem tailor-made to produce life. A radical new theory says it's because our universe is just one of an infinite number of universes, each one slightly different. Our universe is bio-friendly by accident -- we just happened to win the cosmic jackpot. While this multiverse theory is compelling, it has bizarre implications, such as the existence

of infinite copies of each of us and Matrix-like simulated universes. And it still leaves a lot unexplained. Davies believes there's a more satisfying solution to the problem of existence: the observations we make today could help shape the nature of reality in the remote past. If this is true, then life -- and, ultimately, consciousness -- aren't just incidental byproducts of nature, but central players in the evolution of the universe. Whether he's elucidating dark matter or dark energy, M-theory or the multiverse, Davies brings the leading edge of science into sharp focus, provoking us to think about the cosmos and our place within it in new and thrilling ways.

american cosmic: Cosmos Carl Sagan, 2013-12-10 RETURNING TO TELEVISION AS AN ALL-NEW MINISERIES ON FOX *Cosmos* is one of the bestselling science books of all time. In clear-eyed prose, Sagan reveals a jewel-like blue world inhabited by a life form that is just beginning to discover its own identity and to venture into the vast ocean of space. Featuring a new Introduction by Sagan's collaborator, Ann Druyan, full color illustrations, and a new Foreword by astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson, *Cosmos* retraces the fourteen billion years of cosmic evolution that have transformed matter into consciousness, exploring such topics as the origin of life, the human brain, Egyptian hieroglyphics, spacecraft missions, the death of the Sun, the evolution of galaxies, and the forces and individuals who helped to shape modern science. Praise for *Cosmos* "Magnificent . . . With a lyrical literary style, and a range that touches almost all aspects of human knowledge, *Cosmos* often seems too good to be true."—The Plain Dealer "Sagan is an astronomer with one eye on the stars, another on history, and a third—his mind's—on the human condition."—Newsday "Brilliant in its scope and provocative in its suggestions . . . shimmers with a sense of wonder."—The Miami Herald "Sagan dazzles the mind with the miracle of our survival, framed by the stately galaxies of space."—Cosmopolitan "Enticing . . . iridescent . . . imaginatively illustrated."—The New York Times Book Review

american cosmic: Cosmic Constitutional Theory J. Harvie Wilkinson, 2012-03-12 What underlies this development? In this concise and highly engaging work, Federal Appeals Court Judge and noted author (From Brown to Bakke) J. Harvie Wilkinson argues that America's most brilliant legal minds have launched a set of cosmic constitutional theories that, for all their value, are undermining self-governance.

american cosmic: Lost in the Cosmos Walker Percy, 2011-03-29 "A mock self-help book designed not to help but to provoke . . . to inveigle us into thinking about who we are and how we got into this mess." (Los Angeles Times Book Review). Filled with quizzes, essays, short stories, and diagrams, *Lost in the Cosmos* is National Book Award-winning author Walker Percy's humorous take on a familiar genre—as well as an invitation to serious contemplation of life's biggest questions. One part parody and two parts philosophy, *Lost in the Cosmos* is an enlightening guide to the dilemmas of human existence, and an unrivaled spin on self-help manuals by one of modern America's greatest literary masters.

american cosmic: Hunt for the Skinwalker Colm A. Kelleher, George Knapp, 2005-12-06 The author of the controversial bestseller *Brain Trust* brings his scientific expertise to the chilling true story of unexplained phenomena on Utah's Skinwalker Ranch -- and challenges us with a new vision of reality. For more than fifty years, the bizarre events at a remote Utah ranch have ranged from the perplexing to the wholly terrifying. Vanishing and mutilated cattle. Unidentified Flying Objects. The appearance of huge, otherworldly creatures. Invisible objects emitting magnetic fields with the power to spark a cattle stampede. Flying orbs of light with dazzling maneuverability and lethal consequences. For one family, life on the Skinwalker Ranch had become a life under siege by an unknown enemy or enemies. Nothing else could explain the horrors that surrounded them -- perhaps science could. Leading a first-class team of research scientists on a disturbing odyssey into the unknown, Colm Kelleher spent hundreds of days and nights on the Skinwalker property and experienced firsthand many of its haunting mysteries. With investigative reporter George Knapp -- the only journalist allowed to witness and document the team's work -- Kelleher chronicles in superb detail the spectacular happenings the team observed personally, and the theories of modern physics behind the phenomena. Far from the coldly detached findings one might expect, their conclusions

are utterly hair-raising in their implications. Opening a door to the unseen world around us, *Hunt for the Skinwalker* is a clarion call to expand our vision far beyond what we know.

american cosmic: *Cosmology* Daniel Baumann, 2022-06-30 Based on the author's popular lecture notes, this graduate-level textbook provides an accessible and self-contained introduction to cosmology, ideal as a course companion or for self-study. Concepts are explained at an appropriate level of detail, with hundreds of worked examples and problems to facilitate a deeper understanding.

american cosmic: Space and the American Imagination Howard E. McCurdy, 2011-03 People dreamed of cosmic exploration—winged spaceships and lunar voyages; space stations and robot astronauts—long before it actually happened. *Space and the American Imagination* traces the emergence of space travel in the popular mind, its expression in science fiction, and its influence on national space programs. Space exploration dramatically illustrates the power of imagination. Howard E. McCurdy shows how that power inspired people to attempt what they once deemed impossible. In a mere half-century since the launch of the first Earth-orbiting satellite in 1957, humans achieved much of what they had once only read about in the fiction of Jules Verne and H. G. Wells and the nonfiction of Willy Ley. Reaching these goals, however, required broad-based support, and McCurdy examines how advocates employed familiar metaphors to excite interest (promising, for example, that space exploration would recreate the American frontier experience) and prepare the public for daring missions into space. When unexpected realities and harsh obstacles threatened their progress, the space community intensified efforts to make their wildest dreams come true. This lively and important work remains relevant given contemporary questions about future plans at NASA. Fully revised and updated since its original publication in 1997, *Space and the American Imagination* includes a reworked introduction and conclusion and new chapters on robotics and space commerce.

american cosmic: Extraterrestrial Avi Loeb, 2021-01-26 New York Times Bestseller | Wall Street Journal Bestseller | Publishers Weekly Bestseller | Publishers Marketplace 2020 Buzz Book | Amazon Best Book of the Year | Longlisted for the 2022 PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award “Provocative and thrilling ... Loeb asks us to think big and to expect the unexpected.” —Alan Lightman, New York Times bestselling author of *Einstein’s Dreams* and *Searching for Stars* on an Island in Maine Harvard’s top astronomer lays out his controversial theory that our solar system was recently visited by advanced alien technology from a distant star. In late 2017, scientists at a Hawaiian observatory glimpsed an object soaring through our inner solar system, moving so quickly that it could only have come from another star. Avi Loeb, Harvard’s top astronomer, showed it was not an asteroid; it was moving too fast along a strange orbit, and left no trail of gas or debris in its wake. There was only one conceivable explanation: the object was a piece of advanced technology created by a distant alien civilization. In *Extraterrestrial*, Loeb takes readers inside the thrilling story of the first interstellar visitor to be spotted in our solar system. He outlines his controversial theory and its profound implications: for science, for religion, and for the future of our species and our planet. A mind-bending journey through the furthest reaches of science, space-time, and the human imagination, *Extraterrestrial* challenges readers to aim for the stars—and to think critically about what’s out there, no matter how strange it seems.

american cosmic: The Cosmic Hologram Jude Currivan, 2017-02-16 How holographic patterns of information underlie our physical reality • 2017 Nautilus Silver Award • Includes myriad evidence from a wide range of cutting-edge scientific discoveries showing our Universe is an interconnected hologram of information • Explains how consciousness is a major component of the cosmic hologram of information, making us both manifestations and co-creators of our reality • Reconciles Quantum Mechanics and Einstein’s Theory of Relativity by showing that energy-matter and space-time are complementary expressions of information Our understanding of the Universe is about to transform at all levels, from the tiniest Planck scale to the vast reaches of space. Recent scientific discoveries show that the information that upholds all of our modern technologies is exactly the same as the universal in-formation that underpins, pervades, and is all we call physical reality. Exploring how information is more fundamental than energy, matter, space, or time, Jude Currivan, Ph.D.,

examines the latest research across many fields of study and many scales of existence to show how our Universe is in-formed and holographically manifested. She explains how the fractal in-formational patterns that guide behavior at the atomic level also guide the structure of galactic clusters in space. She demonstrates how the in-formational relationships that underlie earthquakes are the same as those that play out during human conflicts. She shows how cities grow in the same in-formational ways that galaxies evolve and how the dynamic in-formational forms that pervade ecosystems are identical to the informational structures of the Internet and our social behaviors. Demonstrating how information is physically real, the author explores how consciousness connects us to the many interconnected layers of universal in-formation, making us both manifestations and co-creators of the cosmic hologram of reality. She explains how Quantum Mechanics and Einstein's Theory of Relativity can at last be reconciled if we consider energy-matter and space-time as complementary expressions of information, and she explores how the cosmic hologram underlies the true origin of species and our own evolution. Concurring too with ancient spiritual wisdom, the author offers solid evidence that consciousness is not something we "have" but the fundamental nature of what we and the entire Universe are. With this understanding, we can each transform our own lives and help co-create and in-form the world around us.

american cosmic: *The Cosmic Web* J. Richard Gott, 2018-06-26 Semi-autobiographical discussion of astronomy and astronomers, and history of astronomy and cosmology.--

american cosmic: *The Cosmic Race / La Raza Cosmica* José Vasconcelos, 1997-08-13 In this influential 1925 essay, presented here in Spanish and English, José Vasconcelos predicted the coming of a new age, the Aesthetic Era, in which joy, love, fantasy, and creativity would prevail over the rationalism he saw as dominating the present age. In this new age, marriages would no longer be dictated by necessity or convenience, but by love and beauty; ethnic obstacles, already in the process of being broken down, especially in Latin America, would disappear altogether, giving birth to a fully mixed race, a cosmic race, in which all the better qualities of each race would persist by the natural selection of love.

american cosmic: *Living Earth Community: Multiple Ways of Being and Knowing* Sam Mickey, Mary Evelyn Tucker, John Grim, 2020-05-18 *Living Earth Community: Multiple Ways of Being and Knowing* is a celebration of the diversity of ways in which humans can relate to the world around them, and an invitation to its readers to partake in planetary coexistence. Innovative, informative, and highly accessible, this interdisciplinary anthology of essays brings together scholars, writers and educators across the sciences and humanities, in a collaborative effort to illuminate the different ways of being in the world and the different kinds of knowledge they entail – from the ecological knowledge of Indigenous communities, to the scientific knowledge of a biologist and the embodied knowledge communicated through storytelling. This anthology examines the interplay between Nature and Culture in the setting of our current age of ecological crisis, stressing the importance of addressing these ecological crises occurring around the planet through multiple perspectives. These perspectives are exemplified through diverse case studies – from the political and ethical implications of thinking with forests, to the capacity of storytelling to motivate action, to the worldview of the Indigenous Okanagan community in British Columbia. *Living Earth Community: Multiple Ways of Being and Knowing* synthesizes insights from across a range of academic fields, and highlights the potential for synergy between disciplinary approaches and inquiries. This anthology is essential reading not only for researchers and students, but for anyone interested in the ways in which humans interact with the community of life on Earth, especially during this current period of environmental emergency.

american cosmic: *The Cosmic Landscape* Leonard Susskind, 2008-12-14 In his first book ever, the father of string theory reinvents the world's concept of the known universe and man's unique place within it. Line drawings.

american cosmic: *Pale Blue Dot* Carl Sagan, Ann Druyan, 2011-07-06 "Fascinating . . . memorable . . . revealing . . . perhaps the best of Carl Sagan's books."—The Washington Post Book World (front page review) In *Cosmos*, the late astronomer Carl Sagan cast his gaze over the

magnificent mystery of the Universe and made it accessible to millions of people around the world. Now in this stunning sequel, Carl Sagan completes his revolutionary journey through space and time. Future generations will look back on our epoch as the time when the human race finally broke into a radically new frontier—space. In *Pale Blue Dot*, Sagan traces the spellbinding history of our launch into the cosmos and assesses the future that looms before us as we move out into our own solar system and on to distant galaxies beyond. The exploration and eventual settlement of other worlds is neither a fantasy nor luxury, insists Sagan, but rather a necessary condition for the survival of the human race. “Takes readers far beyond *Cosmos* . . . Sagan sees humanity’s future in the stars.”—Chicago Tribune

american cosmic: Summary of D.W. Pasulka's American Cosmic Everest Media,, 2022-10-12T22:59:00Z Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 The sacred place is where non-human intelligence is believed to have revealed itself to humans. It is a destination that is also teeming with kitschy shops where tourists and pilgrims can purchase UFO memorabilia. #2 I was traveling with two other people, a professor and his student, to document the belief in extraterrestrial intelligence and the alleged artifacts. We arrived at our destination and took off the blindfolds. I looked around and laughed at our appearance. James and I looked ridiculous in puffy jackets, tall leather boots, and cowboy hats. #3 The site of the crash was featured in the opening episode of the last season of *The X-Files*. It was not surprising that it had become a big deal. My belief in the objective truth of the site didn't matter. It had already become true for millions of people through media. #4 I was there to observe the formation of belief in the artifacts, and to track the various directions this belief took. I was curious to see how the site and the artifacts influenced the beliefs of my research partners, two scientists who were at the top of their games.

american cosmic: The Darkness Outside Us Eliot Schrefer, 2021-06-01 They Both Die at the End meets *The Loneliest Girl in the Universe* in this mind-bending sci-fi mystery and tender love story about two boys aboard a spaceship sent on a rescue mission, from two-time National Book Award finalist Eliot Schrefer. Stonewall Honor Award winner! Two boys, alone in space. Sworn enemies sent on the same rescue mission. Ambrose wakes up on the *Coordinated Endeavor* with no memory of a launch. There’s more that doesn’t add up: evidence indicates strangers have been on board, the ship’s operating system is voiced by his mother, and his handsome, brooding shipmate has barricaded himself away. But nothing will stop Ambrose from making his mission succeed—not when he’s rescuing his own sister. In order to survive the ship’s secrets, Ambrose and Kodiak will need to work together and learn to trust each other . . . especially once they discover what they are truly up against. Love might be the only way to survive. * Chicago Public Library's Best of the Best Books of the Year * A Booklist Editor's Choice of the Year * A BCCB Blue Ribbon Book of the Year * A YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults & Amazing Audiobooks for Young Adults Book of the Year *

american cosmic: Beyond Earth Asif A. Siddiqi, 2018 This is a completely updated and revised version of a monograph published in 2002 by the NASA History Office under the original title *Deep Space Chronicle: A Chronology of Deep Space and Planetary Probes, 1958-2000*. This new edition not only adds all events in robotic deep space exploration after 2000 and up to the end of 2016, but it also completely corrects and updates all accounts of missions from 1958 to 2000--Provided by publisher.

american cosmic: The Quest for Cosmic Justice Thomas Sowell, 2001-06-30 This book is about the great moral issues underlying many of the headline-making political controversies of our times. It is not a comforting book but a book about disturbing and dangerous trends. *The Quest for Cosmic Justice* shows how confused conceptions of justice end up promoting injustice, how confused conceptions of equality end up promoting inequality, and how the tyranny of social visions prevents many people from confronting the actual consequences of their own beliefs and policies. Those consequences include the steady and dangerous erosion of fundamental principles of freedom -- amounting to a quiet repeal of the American revolution. *The Quest for Cosmic Justice* is the summation of a lifetime of study and thought about where we as a society are headed -- and why we

need to change course before we do irretrievable damage.

american cosmic: Lowriders in Space Cathy Camper, 2014-11-01 Lupe Impala, El Chavo Flapjack, and Elirio Malaria love working with cars. You name it, they can fix it. But the team's favorite cars of all are lowriders—cars that hip and hop, dip and drop, go low and slow, bajito y suavequito. The stars align when a contest for the best car around offers a prize of a trunkful of cash—just what the team needs to open their own shop! ¡Ay chihuahua! What will it take to transform a junker into the best car in the universe? Striking, unparalleled art from debut illustrator Raul the Third recalls ballpoint-pen-and-Sharpie desk-drawn doodles, while the story is sketched with Spanish, inked with science facts, and colored with true friendship. With a glossary at the back to provide definitions for Spanish and science terms, this delightful book will educate and entertain in equal measure.

american cosmic: Life in the Cosmos Manasvi Lingam, Abraham Loeb, 2021-06-29 A rigorous and scientific analysis of the myriad possibilities of life beyond our planet. “Are we alone in the universe?” This tantalizing question has captivated humanity over millennia, but seldom has it been approached rigorously. Today the search for signatures of extraterrestrial life and intelligence has become a rapidly advancing scientific endeavor. Missions to Mars, Europa, and Titan seek evidence of life. Laboratory experiments have made great strides in creating synthetic life, deepening our understanding of conditions that give rise to living entities. And on the horizon are sophisticated telescopes to detect and characterize exoplanets most likely to harbor life. Life in the Cosmos offers a thorough overview of the burgeoning field of astrobiology, including the salient methods and paradigms involved in the search for extraterrestrial life and intelligence. Manasvi Lingam and Abraham Loeb tackle three areas of interest in hunting for life “out there”: first, the pathways by which life originates and evolves; second, planetary and stellar factors that affect the habitability of worlds, with an eye on the biomarkers that may reveal the presence of microbial life; and finally, the detection of technological signals that could be indicative of intelligence. Drawing on empirical data from observations and experiments, as well as the latest theoretical and computational developments, the authors make a compelling scientific case for the search for life beyond what we can currently see. Meticulous and comprehensive, Life in the Cosmos is a master class from top researchers in astrobiology, suggesting that the answer to our age-old question is closer than ever before.

american cosmic: Color Us Cosmic Ras Terms, 2017-02-25 Experience the cosmic art world of Ras Terms firsthand as you delve into the bold shapes and icons and match them with the colors of your choice. This is no ordinary coloring book. It is a personal invitation to join in with the art and expression of artist Ras Terms through infinite shapes, lines and colors. With over 60 coloring images and the infinity of your imagination, this book provides unlimited hours of entertainment and artistic exploration. Are you ready to Color Us Cosmic?

american cosmic: Authors of the Impossible Jeffrey J. Kripal, 2011-09-16 “Outstanding and almost certainly controversial. . . . [Kripal] has promise to revitalize and extend the reach of religious studies.” —Choice Most scholars dismiss research into the paranormal as pseudoscience, a frivolous pursuit for the paranoid or gullible. Even historians of religion, whose work naturally attends to events beyond the realm of empirical science, have shown scant interest in the subject. But the history of psychical phenomena, Jeffrey J. Kripal contends, is an untapped source of insight into the sacred and by tracing that history through the last two centuries of Western thought we can see its potential centrality to the critical study of religion. Kripal grounds his study in the work of four major figures in the history of paranormal research: psychical researcher Frederic Myers; writer and humorist Charles Fort; astronomer, computer scientist, and ufologist Jacques Vallee; and philosopher and sociologist Bertrand Méheust. Through incisive analyses of these thinkers, Kripal ushers the reader into a beguiling world somewhere between fact, fiction, and fraud. The cultural history of telepathy, teleportation, and UFOs; a ghostly love story; the occult dimensions of science fiction; cold war psychic espionage; galactic colonialism; and the intimate relationship between consciousness and culture all come together in Authors of the Impossible, a dazzling and profound

look at how the paranormal bridges the sacred and the scientific. "An excellent book. . . . engaging, witty, and thoughtful." -- Christopher Partridge, Lancaster University "[Kripal] demands nothing short of a paradigm shift in order to make sense of the odd, the anomalous, and the inexplicable." —Catherine L. Albanese, University of California, Santa Barbara "Quietly earth-shattering." — Victoria Nelson, author of *The Secret Life of Puppets*

american cosmic: Cosmic Banditos A. C. Weisbecker, 2001-03-01 Soon to be a major motion picture starring John Cusack! Mr. Quark is a down-on-his luck pot-smuggler hiding out in the mountains of Colombia with his dog, High Pockets, and a small band of banditos led by the irascible Jose. Only months before, these three and their fearless associates were rolling in millions in cash and high-grade marijuana, eluding prosecution on "ridiculously false" drug and terrorism charges. But times have quickly grown lean, and to liven up their exile, Jose decides to mug a family of American tourists. Among the spoils are physics texts, which launch Mr. Quark on a side-splitting, boisterous adventure north to California, where he confronts the owner of the books with his own theories on relativity, the nature of the universe, and looking for the meaning of life in all the wrong places....

american cosmic: The Apollo Murders Chris Hadfield, 2024-10-01 #1 INSTANT NATIONAL BESTSELLER NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER THE TIMES (LONDON) THRILLER OF THE YEAR PICK AN INDIGO BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR NOMINATED for The Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize and the Sideways Award for Alternate History Exciting. —Andy Weir, author of *The Martian* Nail-biting. —James Cameron, writer and director of *Avatar* and *Titanic* Not to be missed. —Frederick Forsyth, author of *The Day of the Jackal* An exceptional Cold War thriller from the dark heart of the Space Race, by astronaut and bestselling author Chris Hadfield. 1973. A final, top-secret mission to the Moon. Three astronauts in a tiny module, a quarter of a million miles from home. A quarter of a million miles from help. As Russian and American crews sprint for a secret bounty hidden away on the lunar surface, old rivalries blossom and the political stakes are stretched to the breaking point back on Earth. Houston flight controller Kazimieras Kaz Zemeckis must do all he can to keep the NASA crew together, while staying one step ahead of his Soviet rivals. But not everyone on board Apollo 18 is quite who they appear to be. Full of the fascinating technical detail that fans of *The Martian* loved, and reminiscent of the thrilling claustrophobia, twists and tension of *The Hunt for Red October*, *The Apollo Murders* puts you right there in the moment. Experience the fierce G-forces of launch, the frozen loneliness of Space and the fear of holding on to the outside of a spacecraft orbiting the Earth at 17,000 miles per hour, as told by a former Commander of the International Space Station who has done all of those things in real life. Strap in and count down for the ride of a lifetime.

american cosmic: The End of Everything Katie Mack, 2020-08-04 A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF 2020 NAMED A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR BY * THE WASHINGTON POST * THE ECONOMIST * NEW SCIENTIST * PUBLISHERS WEEKLY * THE GUARDIAN From one of the most dynamic rising stars in astrophysics, an "engrossing, elegant" (*The New York Times*) look at five ways the universe could end, and the mind-blowing lessons each scenario reveals about the most important concepts in cosmology. We know the universe had a beginning. With the Big Bang, it expanded from a state of unimaginable density to an all-encompassing cosmic fireball to a simmering fluid of matter and energy, laying down the seeds for everything from black holes to one rocky planet orbiting a star near the edge of a spiral galaxy that happened to develop life as we know it. But what happens to the universe at the end of the story? And what does it mean for us now? Dr. Katie Mack has been contemplating these questions since she was a young student, when her astronomy professor informed her the universe could end at any moment, in an instant. This revelation set her on the path toward theoretical astrophysics. Now, with lively wit and humor, she takes us on a mind-bending tour through five of the cosmos's possible finales: the Big Crunch, Heat Death, the Big Rip, Vacuum Decay (the one that could happen at any moment!), and the Bounce. Guiding us through cutting-edge science and major concepts in quantum mechanics, cosmology, string theory, and much more, *The End of Everything* is a wildly fun, surprisingly upbeat ride to the

farthest reaches of all that we know.

american cosmic: Trump Sky Alpha Mark Doten, 2019-02-19 A novel on the political madness of our time and the Internet's deep workings, by the author of *The Infernal One* year after the president has plunged the world into nuclear war, a journalist takes refuge in the Twin Cities Metro Containment Zone. On assignment, she documents internet humor at the end of the world, hoping along the way to find the final resting place of her wife and daughter. What she uncovers, hidden amid spiraling memes and twitter jokes in an archive of the internet's remnants, are references to an enigmatic figure known only as Birdcrash, who may hold the key to an uncertain future.

american cosmic: Believing in Bits Simone Natale, Diana Walsh Pasulka, 2020 *Believing in Bits* advances the idea that religious beliefs and practices have become inextricably linked to the functioning of digital media. How did we come to associate things such as mindreading and spirit communications with the functioning of digital technologies? How does the internet's capacity to facilitate the proliferation of beliefs blur the boundaries between what is considered fiction and fact? Addressing these and similar questions, the volume challenges and redefines established understandings of digital media and culture by employing the notions of belief, religion, and the supernatural.

american cosmic: The Invisible College Jacques Vallee, 2015-06-01 What is the nature of unidentified aerial phenomena? Forty years ago a small cadre of dedicated researchers began actively investigating cases, interviewing witnesses, and exchanging data through a small, informal network of international contacts. Today this low profile network, or invisible college, has grown into a larger, multi-nation volunteer research effort joined by many individuals. But the questions first raised 40 years ago remain current and unanswered. I believe that a powerful force has influenced the human race in the past and is again influencing it now. Does this force represent alien intervention, or does it originate entirely within human consciousness? This is the question that forms the basis of the work of the Invisible College of UFO researchers. - Jacques Vallee Dr. Jacques Vallee began his professional life as an astronomer at the Paris Observatory in 1961. While on the staff of the French Space Committee, he witnessed the destruction of the tracking tapes of unknown objects orbiting the earth, initiating a lifelong interest in the UFO phenomenon. Vallee arrived in the U.S. in 1962 and worked in astronomy at the University of Texas at Austin before receiving a Ph.D. in computer science from Northwestern University in 1967. There he became a close associate of J. Allen Hynek, then scientific consultant for the U.S. Air Force on Project Blue Book-the result was *The Invisible College*. Other works by Vallee include *Dimensions*, *Confrontations*, and *Revelations*. Dr. Vallee is presently a venture capitalist living in San Francisco.

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