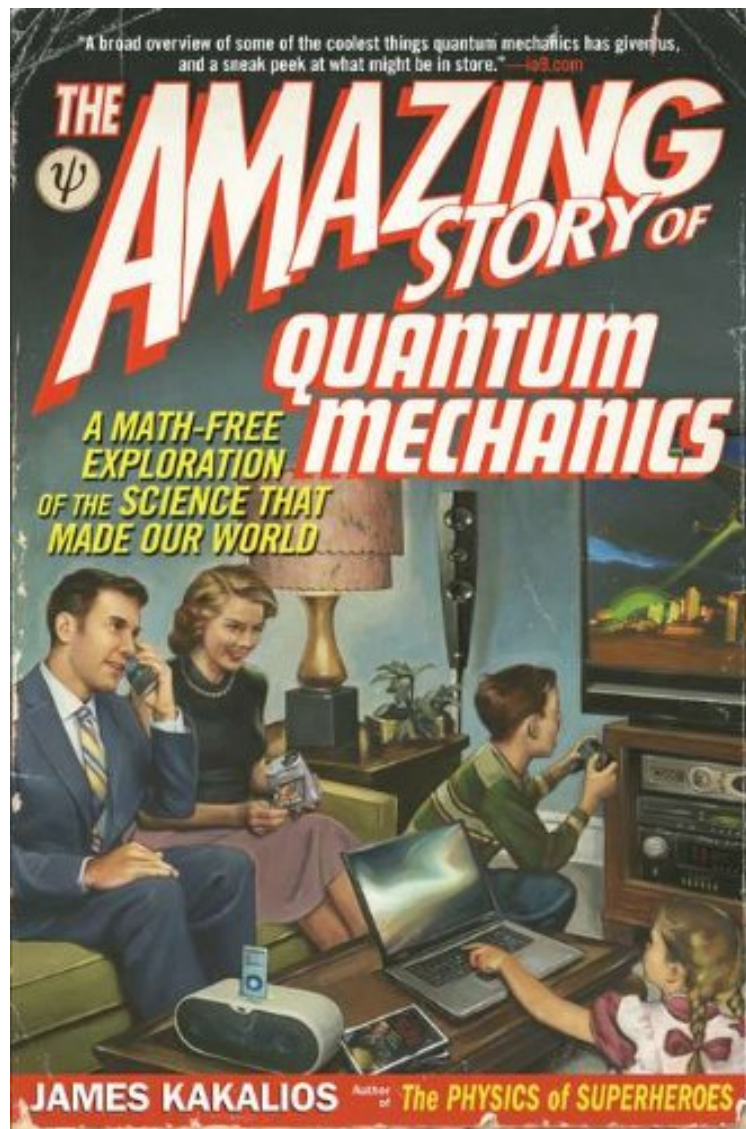


[Mobile ebook] The Amazing Story of Quantum Mechanics: A Math-Free Exploration of the Science That Made Our World

## The Amazing Story of Quantum Mechanics: A Math-Free Exploration of the Science That Made Our World

James Kakalios

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**James Kakalios : The Amazing Story of Quantum Mechanics: A Math-Free Exploration of the Science That Made Our World** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Amazing Story of Quantum Mechanics: A Math-Free Exploration of the Science That Made Our World:

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book for beginners who don't want to deal with a lot of equations when they're just starting out. The book is a bit heavy on metaphor but that's probably necessary in a primer volume that's trying to give you an overview of unproven scientific theory. Fun to expand the intellect. Expand your thought and get your 'learn' on. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Interesting reading By CaptainBI was very much surprised (and pleased) with this book. It was not too technical that the average high-school student could not understand it yet it was detailed enough to describe processes that many of us are not aware of. It was very interesting how the author kept tying the subject matter back to "science fiction" and the connection between fiction and science. However, it did seem that some of these were a bit too long (and distracting). All in all though, it was well written and a quick read. It is a natural for Kindle. I donated my copy to the local library hoping it will attract interest in this subject among high-school and college students. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is a GREAT Read! By Chris Reich I really like this book so much that I've now read through it three times. Not only does it clarify some very difficult concepts in quantum mechanics, it is also very entertaining. If you want a peek into the area of science that Einstein called "spooky", this is the book for you. Some background in quantum mechanics might be helpful but probably not essential. The book is easy to follow and understand. The author doesn't start simple and then dive to the impenetrable. He keeps it understandable throughout.

A highly entertaining exploration of the complicated science of quantum mechanics made easy to understand by way of pop culture. As a young science fiction fan, physicist James Kakalios marveled at the future predicted in the pulp magazines, comics, and films of the '50s and '60s. By 2010, he was sure we'd have flying cars and jetpacks. But what we ended up with—laptop computers, MRI machines, Blu-ray players, and dozens of other real-life marvels—are even more fantastic. In *The Amazing Story of Quantum Mechanics*, he explains why the development of quantum mechanics enabled our amazing present day. In his trademark style, Kakalios uses pop culture examples—everything from the graphic novel *Watchmen* to schlock horror movies of the '50s—to elucidate some of the most complex science there is. And he brings to life the groundbreaking scientists whose discoveries made our present life possible. Along the way, he dispels the misconception that quantum mechanics is unknowable by mere mortals. It's not magic; it's science!

From Booklist \*Starred\* In revolutionizing modern science, Erwin Schrödinger and Werner Heisenberg somehow neglected the exciting plots and images of science fiction and comic books. Not to worry. Kakalios has now remedied that curious lapse. Indeed, Kakalios sees kindred kinds of imaginative daring in the appearance of the first science-fiction pulp magazine in the same year (1926) that Schrödinger and Heisenberg published their paradigm-shaping discoveries. This improbable connection between abstruse science and popular culture brings Buck Rogers, Dr. Manhattan (of the *Watchmen*), Dick Tracy, and even Dagwood into a no-tears foray into the theoretical physics that opened the world of lasers, laptop computers, DVDs, and cell phones. Though the book does not quite live up to the subtitle's promise of a math-free text, readers need no more than basic algebra to accompany comic-book heroes into well-illustrated explanations of quantum packets of light energy, of the wave functions of particles, and even of the angular spin inherent in both energy and matter. These basic principles illuminate the solid-state physics of semiconductors, the atomic magnetism of MRIs, and the nanotechnology of high-capacity storage batteries. And all of this conceptual heavy lifting comes with entertaining episodes from DC Comics and H. G. Wells fiction. Physics has never been more fun! --Bryce Christensen "A quirky but sensible explanation of quantum mechanics." ---Kirkus About the Author James Kakalios is a professor in the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Minnesota, where he has taught since 1988, and where his class "Everything I Needed to Know About Physics I Learned from Reading Comic Books" is a popular freshman seminar. He received his Ph.D. in 1985 from the University of Chicago, and has been reading comic books for much longer.