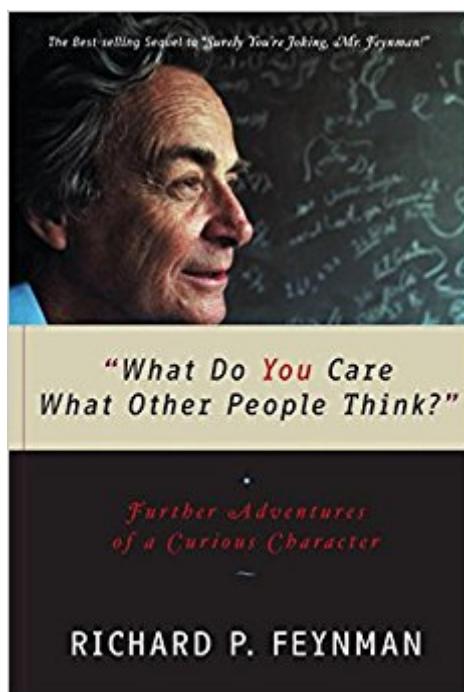


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"What Do You Care What Other People Think?": Further Adventures Of A Curious Character



Synopsis

The New York Times' best-selling sequel to "Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman!" One of the greatest physicists of the twentieth century, Richard Feynman possessed an unquenchable thirst for adventure and an unparalleled ability to tell the stories of his life. "What Do You Care What Other People Think?" is Feynman's last literary legacy, prepared with his friend and fellow drummer, Ralph Leighton. Among its many tales—some funny, others intensely moving—we meet Feynman's first wife, Arlene, who taught him of love's irreducible mystery as she lay dying in a hospital bed while he worked nearby on the atomic bomb at Los Alamos. We are also given a fascinating narrative of the investigation of the space shuttle Challenger's explosion in 1986, and we relive the moment when Feynman revealed the disaster's cause by an elegant experiment: dropping a ring of rubber into a glass of cold water and pulling it out, misshapen.

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Customer Reviews

A thoughtful companion volume to the earlier *Surely You Are Joking Mr. Feynman!*. Perhaps the most intriguing parts of the book are the behind-the-scenes descriptions of science and policy colliding in the presidential commission to determine the cause of the Challenger space shuttle explosion; and the scientific sleuthing behind his famously elegant O-ring-in-ice-water demonstration. Not as rollicking as his other memoirs, but in some ways more profound. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Roughly half of these 21 short, colloquial essays deal with Feynman's firsthand investigation of the Challenger space-shuttle disaster. He casts himself in the role of intrepid detective, and the first-person singular pronoun keeps intruding on the worthwhile things he has to say about flight safety and lack of communication within NASA. An appendix offers his chilling technical observations on the shuttle's reliability or lack of it. The remaining pieces are mostly a blur of international conferences, purveying slight anecdotes. But two essays touch genuine depths of feeling: his tribute to his father, who taught him to cultivate a sense of wonder, and his account of his love affair with his first wife (who died). In this posthumous miscellany, theoretical physicist Feynman displays only sporadically the adventurousness that captivated readers of *Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman*. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

So far, so good... This book is as interesting as the first one. Though it's short, in the first half, Feynman reflects his days with his wife Arlene - which is the wisest and emotional of all his stories... and The Shuttle Challenger disaster, in the second half.

A little unpolished, but a tremendous insight into one of the greatest minds to grace the field of physics. This is very easy and reading, don't be intimidated by the man. *Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman* was more fun, but reading about the challenger investigation is extremely interesting. Read it in a single day, something I rarely do these days.

Feynman was one of the best scientists, life philosophers, human being that have ever lived.

Offer's a bit more but quite a bit of redundancy with other Feynman books.

Some laugh out loud moments. Everybody loves Feynman.

I read the book because of the Science Channel's movie on Challenger, since it was based in part on this book. There are significant differences between what Feynman says in this book and what was in the movie. The gist was the same but the movie is not accurate. I believe I had read "Surely You're Joking...", before not this one. Many of the stories were familiar including the heartbreak of Feynman's first wife. I enjoyed the book and reading of Feynman's thoughts and experiences. I am trained as a physicist and appreciate and understand many of his opinions and observations. Overall

it is a good read. There are times when Feynman seems full of himself, but he is brilliant and a Noble Prize winner.

An entertaining read, both the humanity and the genius of the man shine through.

This book is more than just exciting. It is wondrous for a non-scientific reader like me. I love science but never learned the math. Having science, from physics to zoology, set out in layman's terms, by someone as excited about it as Richard Feynman, has been a joy. His insights into science as a whole, NASA, and bureaucracy in general, are keen and informative. Great book. Every thinking citizen should read this book

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