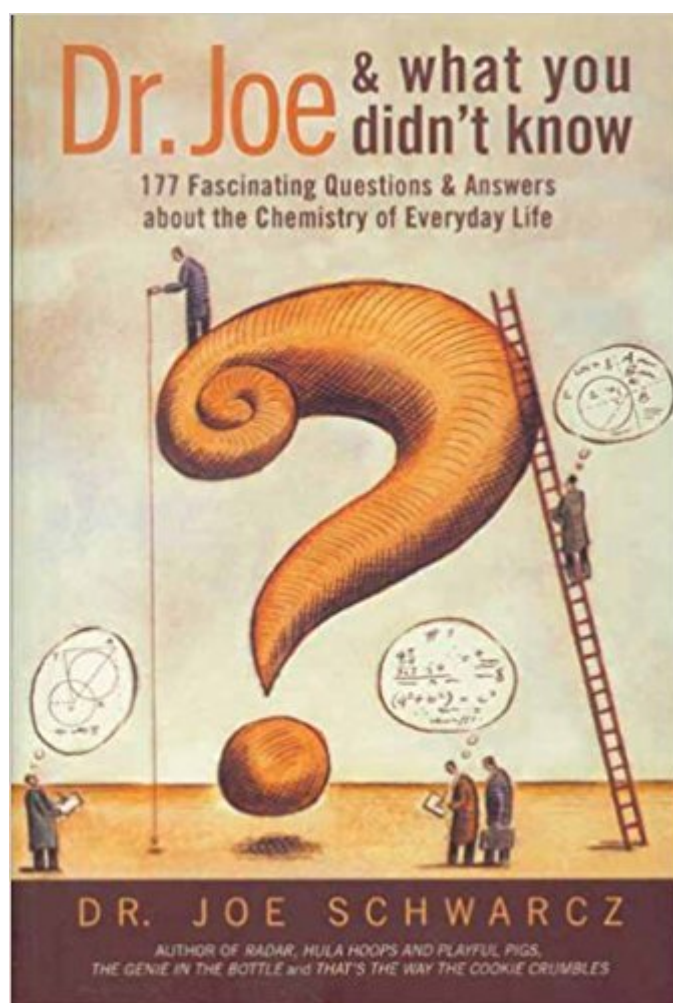


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Dr. Joe & What You Didn't Know: 177 Fascinating Questions About The Chemistry Of Everyday Life



Synopsis

From Beethoven's connection to plumbing to why rotten eggs smell like sulfur, the technical explanations included in this scientific primer tackle 99 chemistry-related questions and provide answers designed to inform and entertain.

Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #191,861 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #106 in [Books > Science & Math > Essays & Commentary](#) #776 in [Books > Science & Math > Chemistry > General & Reference](#)

Customer Reviews

"A book with an incredibly high 'Did you know that...?' quotient...Completely captivating..." -- Daphne Dykeman, New Brunswick Reader

Dr. Joe Schwarcz directs the Office of Science and Society at McGill University. He is the author of *That's the Way the Cookie Crumbles*; *Radar, Hula Hoops and Playful Pigs*; and *The Genie in the Bottle*. He has appeared on the Discovery Channel and is the winner of the American Chemical Society's Stack-Grady Award for interpreting science to the public. He lives in Montreal, Quebec.

I find this book very interesting, there are so many questions that I haven't think ever. I'd like more answers

This is a fun book! I leave it out for friends and guest to start conversations.

I love Dr. Joe's books. They are fun to read and still full of quality Chemistry content. My students like to pick it up and read a question here or there.

The "Dr. Joe" books are all very readable, interesting, informative, and bring some much-needed scientific rigour to the realm of "popular science." As a chemistry professor at McGill University, one of Canada's most prestigious schools, Schwarcz brings a couple decades worth of authority to his books. That's not to say that they are dry and simply factual - they are extremely user friendly and require no science background to understand. That is the genius of Dr. Joe's books - they are easy to read but never scientifically wrong. This particular book contains a number of short (usually ~1 page long) questions and answers on everything from the origin of the green colour in potato chips to the use of dirt in treating tuberculosis. With 177 short essays, there is something to interest everyone. Unfortunately, they are numbered 1-177 and proceed with no other subdivisions. While this makes it easy to read in short bursts (it's ideal for city bus rides, for example), the book lacks cohesion. There are some interrelated questions that are separated in the book, when links between them would help the explanation of each observation. What he loses in coherence, however, he makes back up in variety. In short, this is a fun book for anyone interested in how the physical world works. It also contains a number of ideas for science fair projects, for example, and so could become a valuable reference in addition to an interesting read.

Terrible narration. It's like listening to someone who is learning to read. Shame because the subject matter seemed really interesting but I couldn't make it past 10 minutes in. Dr. Joe's other books are narrated by someone else, I would check those out first.

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