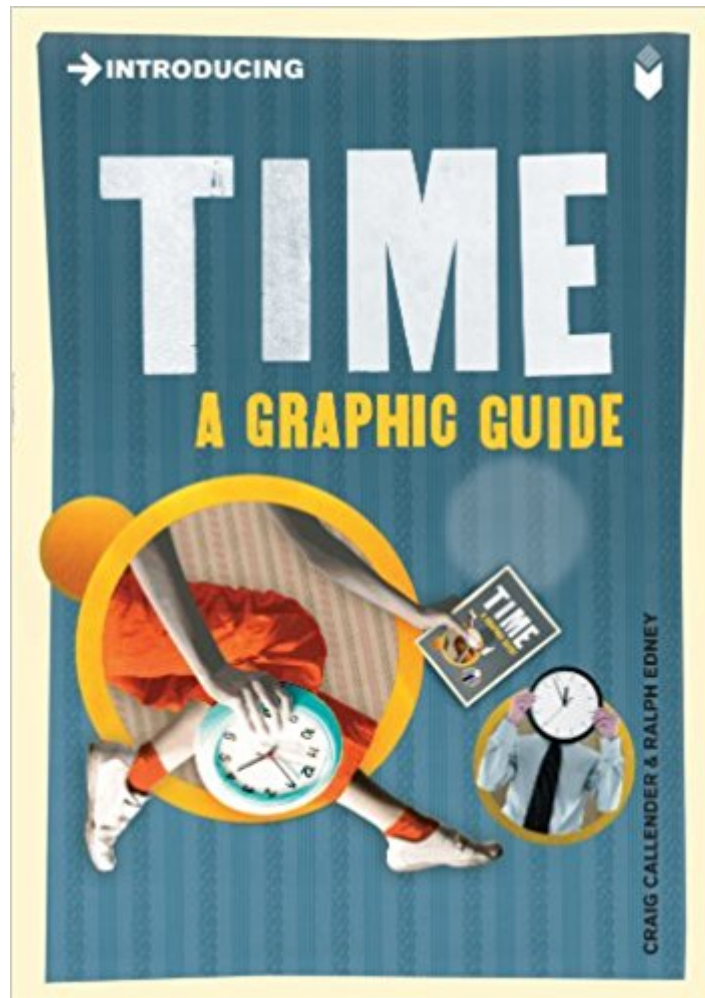




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Introducing Time: A Graphic Guide (Introducing...)



Synopsis

What is time? The 5th-century philosopher St Augustine famously said that he knew what time was, so long as no one asked him. Is time a fourth dimension similar to space or does it flow in some sense? And if it flows, does it make sense to say how fast? Does the future exist? Is time travel possible? Why does time seem to pass in only one direction? These questions and others are among the deepest and most subtle that one can ask, but "Introducing Time" presents them - many for the first time - in an easily accessible, lucid and engaging manner, wittily illustrated by Ralph Edney.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's not that the book is not good quality....it just isn't good for ME. It was way too technical and I found myself unable to follow the concepts. But when it comes right down to it, I may not have been that interested, either. The graphics were great and what grabbed my attention in the first place. So I recommend the book for those who really want to learn more about time, literally.

Some good review material here, and with good illustrations, but too much of the book is about the author's own non-mainstream theory of time.

Fun book on the concept easy to understand fun concept using the cartoonish visuals

a very informative and interesting book. it is an overview of the subject which clearly explains the differing viewpoints and theories of various philosophers and physicists concerning time - all the way from those who believe that time is an essential and absolute reality, to those, like goedel, who maintained that it is simply an illusion and does not even exist (the book clearly presents his reasoning for this conclusion.)

Great introduction to the concept of "Time". This book, with it's comic book style illustrations and easy to digest content, helps one begin to fathom the many complexities and paradoxes inherent in our current understanding of "time".

The author did a very good job for introducing this big and difficult topic within simple paragraphs. Here I'll try to figure out the main points which are hidden in the structure of the book. In the beginning, the author started to talk about several concepts such as 1. Clocks 2. Psychological time 3. Time scenarios 4. Relationalism and absolute time 5. Relative and non-relative 6. Tenseless and tensed 7. Dimensions 8. Motion and change. These conceptions can help us to rethink our world in several different ways. Then, he introduced special relativity--to explain Time Travel is logical possible (under the classical logic: $A=A$). It means that we can not violate the rule " $A=A$ " when we think about Time travel. Further, he continued to discuss General relativity to explain--is it possible for physical Time Travel? After that, he used a very good, in my opinion, method- Thermodynamics- to explain: 1. where and how did the universe come from? 2. what possible will the universe be in the future? According to a great German philosopher-Kant, we human beings carry a prior faculty-Time, Space, Cause, Effect-when we were born. We perceive our surrounding under this framework. Hence, to understand these categories (Time, Space, Cause, Effect) are important. Physics has devoted a big part to Time and Space (or Timespace). In history, many great thinkers-such as Newton, Einstein-proposed their unique worldview of space and time to promote human beings' intellection. The book included their conceptions and discussed two of categories well. I do not have any background of physics. However, I bet that even you are in lack of fundamental knowledge of physics, you still can learn about "Time(Space)" through this

book.Finally, I have to say again that the author introduced the difficult topic very well.By the way, I think my review may be more suitable for someone who has finished the book than those who don't.p.s.Sorry for my poor English.

I found the way the book dealt with time done well, though the graphics didn't really add much. It was a bit of a distraction. If you want to know some of the theories regarding the arrow of time, is time real and can you travel back in time, it's worth a read.

Entertaining. Sketches are peculiar in a pleasing sense.

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