

Il Cucchiaino Scomparso E Altre Storie Della Tavola Periodica Degli Elementi

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[Adventures in Memory](#) - Hilde Østby 2018-10-09
A novelist and a neuroscientist uncover the secrets of human memory. What makes us remember? Why do we forget? And what, exactly, is a memory? With playfulness and intelligence, *Adventures in*

Memory answers these questions and more, offering an illuminating look at one of our most fascinating faculties. The authors—two Norwegian sisters, one a neuropsychologist and the other an acclaimed writer—skillfully interweave

history, research, and exceptional personal stories, taking readers on a captivating exploration of the evolving understanding of the science of memory from the Renaissance discovery of the hippocampus—named after the seahorse it resembles—up to the present day. Mixing metaphor with meta-analysis, they embark on an incredible journey: “diving for seahorses” for a memory experiment in Oslo fjord, racing taxis through London, and “time-traveling” to the future to reveal thought-provoking insights into remembering and forgetting. Along the way they interview experts of all stripes, from the world’s top neuroscientists to famous novelists, to help explain how memory works, why it sometimes fails, and what we can do to improve it. Filled with cutting-edge research and nimble storytelling, the result is a charming—and memorable—adventure through human memory.

Caesar's Last Breath - Sam Kean 2017-07-18

The Guardian's Best Science Book of 2017: the fascinating science and history of the air we breathe. It's invisible. It's ever-present. Without it, you would die in minutes. And it has an epic story to tell. In *Caesar's Last Breath*, New York Times bestselling author Sam Kean takes us on a journey through the periodic table, around the globe, and across time to tell the story of the air we breathe, which, it turns out, is also the story of earth and our existence on it. With every breath, you literally inhale the history of the world. On the ides of March, 44 BC, Julius Caesar died of stab wounds on the Senate floor, but the story of his last breath is still unfolding; in fact, you're probably inhaling some of it now. Of the sextillions of molecules entering or leaving your lungs at this moment, some might well bear traces of Cleopatra's perfumes, German mustard gas, particles exhaled by dinosaurs or emitted by atomic bombs, even remnants of stardust from the universe's creation. Tracing the origins

and ingredients of our atmosphere, Kean reveals how the alchemy of air reshaped our continents, steered human progress, powered revolutions, and continues to influence everything we do. Along the way, we'll swim with radioactive pigs, witness the most important chemical reactions humans have discovered, and join the crowd at the Moulin Rouge for some of the crudest performance art of all time. Lively, witty, and filled with the astounding science of ordinary life, *Caesar's Last Breath* illuminates the science stories swirling around us every second.

Etty - Etty Hillesum 2002

In the midst of the horrors of the Nazi Holocaust, Etty's writings reveal a young Jewish woman who celebrated life and remained an undaunted example of courage, sympathy, and compassion. Through this splendid translation by Arnold J. Pomerans, commissioned by the Etty Hillesum Foundation, readers everywhere will resonate with the spirit of this

amazing young woman.
The Last Man Who Knew Everything - David N. Schwartz
2017-12-05

The definitive biography of the brilliant, charismatic, and very human physicist and innovator Enrico Fermi In 1942, a team at the University of Chicago achieved what no one had before: a nuclear chain reaction. At the forefront of this breakthrough stood Enrico Fermi. Straddling the ages of classical physics and quantum mechanics, equally at ease with theory and experiment, Fermi truly was the last man who knew everything--at least about physics. But he was also a complex figure who was a part of both the Italian Fascist Party and the Manhattan Project, and a less-than-ideal father and husband who nevertheless remained one of history's greatest mentors. Based on new archival material and exclusive interviews, *The Last Man Who Knew Everything* lays bare the enigmatic life of a colossus of twentieth century physics.

Il segreto degli elementi -

Marco Ciardi

2019-03-06T00:00:00+01:00

Il libro ricostruisce la storia dei personaggi e delle scoperte che condussero all'invenzione della Tavola Periodica degli Elementi da parte del chimico Dmitrij Ivanovič Mendeleev nel 1869. La Tavola Periodica degli Elementi è una delle icone più celebri della modernità.

Presente nelle aule di scienze di tutte le scuole e università, rappresenta anche una fonte di ispirazione per artisti e scrittori. Primo Levi la definì una 'meravigliosa poesia'. Ma come si è giunti alla realizzazione di questo vero e proprio capolavoro scientifico? Una storia straordinaria e affascinante, che si svolge tra idee e laboratori, filosofie e biografie, scoperte ed eventi politici, che vedono protagoniste in particolare due nazioni europee, la Russia e l'Italia. In appendice, tre lettere inedite di Mendeleev a scienziati italiani.

Up (Disney/Pixar Up) - RH

Disney 2013-12-18

A Little Golden Book retelling of Disney/Pixar Up! Meet Car

and Russell. Carl is old and lonely. Russell is young and looking for a friend. When they're thrown together on the adventure of a lifetime, they discover that friendships are great at any age! This Little Golden Book retelling of Disney/Pixar Up will appeal to adventurers of all ages.

Two-Sided Matching - Alvin E. Roth 1992-06-26

Two-sided matching provides a model of search processes such as those between firms and workers in labor markets or between buyers and sellers in auctions. This book gives a comprehensive account of recent results concerning the game-theoretic analysis of two-sided matching. The focus of the book is on the stability of outcomes, on the incentives that different rules of organization give to agents, and on the constraints that these incentives impose on the ways such markets can be organized. The results for this wide range of related models and matching situations help clarify which conclusions depend on particular modeling

assumptions and market conditions, and which are robust over a wide range of conditions. 'This book chronicles one of the outstanding success stories of the theory of games, a story in which the authors have played a major role: the theory and practice of matching markets ... The authors are to be warmly congratulated for this fine piece of work, which is quite unique in the game-theoretic literature.' From the Foreword by Robert Aumann

Eve's Diary (Diversion Illustrated Classics) - Mark Twain 2015-05-12

Introducing Diversion Classics, an illustrated series that showcases great works of literature from the world's most beloved authors. In this first-person story of the Garden of Eden, the world's first woman chronicles her daily life. Eve's observations of the natural world, her own existence, and of course, her husband, Adam, are both comical and poignant. From her entrance into Eden to her eventual death, EVE'S DIARY is

Mark Twain's unique spin on one of the most well-known stories in history.

Erections, Ejaculations, Exhibitions and General Tales of Ordinary Madness - Charles Bukowski 1979

Scienza e Arte - Vincenzo Schettino 2014

Ocean Sea - Alessandro Baricco 2000-06-27

"Exotic...erotic... Ocean Sea is highly romantic and breathtakingly lyrical."--The New York Times Book Review

With *Silk*, his first novel to appear in English, Alessandro Baricco immediately proved himself to be a magical storyteller. With *Ocean Sea*, he has been acclaimed as the successor to Italo Calvino, and a major voice in modern literature. In *Ocean Sea*, Alessandro Baricco presents a hypnotizing postmodern fable of human malady--psychological, existential, erotic--and the sea as a means of deliverance. At the Almayor Inn, a remote shoreline hotel, an artist dips his brush in a cup

of ocean water to paint a portrait of the sea. A scientist pens love letters to a woman he has yet to meet. An adulteress searches for relief from her proclivity to fall in love. And a sixteen-year-old girl seeks a cure from a mysterious condition which science has failed to remedy. When these people meet, their fates begin to interact as if by design. Enter a mighty tempest and a ghostly mariner with a thirst for vengeance, and the Inn becomes a place where destiny and desire battle for the upper hand. Playful, provocative, and ultimately profound, *Ocean Sea* is a novel of striking originality and wisdom.

I Am Ozzy - Ozzy Osbourne

2010-01-25

"They've said some crazy things about me over the years. I mean, okay: 'He bit the head off a bat.' Yes. 'He bit the head off a dove.' Yes. But then you hear things like, 'Ozzy went to the show last night, but he wouldn't perform until he'd killed fifteen puppies . . .' Now me, kill fifteen puppies? I love puppies. I've got eighteen of

the f**king things at home. I've killed a few cows in my time, mind you. And the chickens. I shot the chickens in my house that night. It haunts me, all this crazy stuff. Every day of my life has been an event. I took lethal combinations of booze and drugs for thirty f**king years. I survived a direct hit by a plane, suicidal overdoses, STDs. I've been accused of attempted murder. Then I almost died while riding over a bump on a quad bike at f**king two miles per hour. People ask me how come I'm still alive, and I don't know what to say. When I was growing up, if you'd have put me up against a wall with the other kids from my street and asked me which one of us was gonna make it to the age of sixty, which one of us would end up with five kids and four grandkids and houses in Buckinghamshire and Beverly Hills, I wouldn't have put money on me, no f**king way. But here I am: ready to tell my story, in my own words, for the first time. A lot of it ain't gonna be pretty. I've done some bad things in my time. I've always

been drawn to the dark side, me. But I ain't the devil. I'm just John Osborne: a working-class kid from Aston, who quit his job in the factory and went looking for a good time."

The Forgotten Revolution -

Lucio Russo 2013-12-01

The period from the late fourth to the late second century B. C. witnessed, in Greek-speaking countries, an explosion of objective knowledge about the external world. While Greek culture had reached great heights in art, literature and philosophy already in the earlier classical era, it is in the so-called Hellenistic period that we see for the first time — anywhere in the world — the appearance of science as we understand it now: not an accumulation of facts or philosophically based speculations, but an organized effort to model nature and apply such models, or scientific theories in a sense we will make precise, to the solution of practical problems and to a growing understanding of nature. We owe this new approach to

scientists such as Archimedes, Euclid, Eratosthenes and many others less familiar today but no less remarkable. Yet, not long after this golden period, much of this extraordinary development had been reversed.

Rome borrowed what it was capable of from the Greeks and kept it for a little while yet, but created very little science of its own. Europe was soon smothered in the obscurantism and stasis that blocked most avenues of intellectual development for a thousand years — until, as is well known, the rediscovery of ancient culture in its fullness paved the way to the modern age.

The Disappearing Spoon - Sam Kean 2010-07-12

From New York Times bestselling author Sam Kean comes incredible stories of science, history, finance, mythology, the arts, medicine, and more, as told by the Periodic Table. Why did Gandhi hate iodine (I, 53)? How did radium (Ra, 88) nearly ruin Marie Curie's reputation? And why is gallium (Ga, 31) the go-to element for laboratory

pranksters?* The Periodic Table is a crowning scientific achievement, but it's also a treasure trove of adventure, betrayal, and obsession. These fascinating tales follow every element on the table as they play out their parts in human history, and in the lives of the (frequently) mad scientists who discovered them. THE DISAPPEARING SPOON masterfully fuses science with the classic lore of invention, investigation, and discovery--from the Big Bang through the end of time. *Though solid at room temperature, gallium is a moldable metal that melts at 84 degrees Fahrenheit. A classic science prank is to mold gallium spoons, serve them with tea, and watch guests recoil as their utensils disappear.

Chemical Reaction Engineering - Octave Levenspiel 1998-09-01
Chemical reaction engineering is concerned with the exploitation of chemical reactions on a commercial scale. Its goal is the successful design and operation of chemical reactors. This text

emphasizes qualitative arguments, simple design methods, graphical procedures, and frequent comparison of capabilities of the major reactor types. Simple ideas are treated first, and are then extended to the more complex. *How Fiction Works* - James Wood 2008-07-22

A book-length essay by the forefront literary critic takes readers on a philosophical tour of the art of the novel, in a wide-ranging piece that explores such topics as the definition of style, the connection between realism and real life, and the qualities that make a story. By the author of *The Irresponsible Self*.

The Bastard Brigade - Sam Kean 2019-07-09

From New York Times bestselling author Sam Kean comes the gripping, untold story of a renegade group of scientists and spies determined to keep Adolf Hitler from obtaining the ultimate prize: a nuclear bomb. Scientists have always kept secrets. But rarely have the secrets been as vital

as they were during World War II. In the middle of building an atomic bomb, the leaders of the Manhattan Project were alarmed to learn that Nazi Germany was far outpacing the Allies in nuclear weapons research. Hitler, with just a few pounds of uranium, would have the capability to reverse the entire D-Day operation and conquer Europe. So they assembled a rough and motley crew of geniuses -- dubbed the Alsos Mission -- and sent them careening into Axis territory to spy on, sabotage, and even assassinate members of Nazi Germany's feared Uranium Club. The details of the mission rival the finest spy thriller, but what makes this story sing is the incredible cast of characters -- both heroes and rogues alike -- including: Moe Bergm, the major league catcher who abandoned the game for a career as a multilingual international spy; the strangest fellow to ever play professional baseball. Werner Heisenberg, the Nobel Prize-winning physicist credited as the discoverer of

quantum mechanics; a key contributor to the Nazi's atomic bomb project and the primary target of the Alsos mission. Colonel Boris Pash, a high school science teacher and veteran of the Russian Revolution who fled the Soviet Union with a deep disdain for Communists and who later led the Alsos mission. Joe Kennedy Jr., the charismatic, thrill-seeking older brother of JFK whose need for adventure led him to volunteer for the most dangerous missions the Navy had to offer. Samuel Goudsmit, a washed-up physics prodigy who spent his life hunting Nazi scientists -- and his parents, who had been swept into a concentration camp -- across the globe. Irène and Frederic Joliot-Curie, a physics Nobel-Prize winning power couple who used their unassuming status as scientists to become active members of the resistance. Thrust into the dark world of international espionage, these scientists and soldiers played a vital and largely untold role in turning back one of the darkest tides in

human history.

King Leopold's Ghost - Adam Hochschild 2019-05-14

With an introduction by award-winning novelist Barbara Kingsolver In the late nineteenth century, when the great powers in Europe were tearing Africa apart and seizing ownership of land for themselves, King Leopold of Belgium took hold of the vast and mostly unexplored territory surrounding the Congo River. In his devastatingly barbarous colonization of this area, Leopold stole its rubber and ivory, pummelled its people and set up a ruthless regime that would reduce the population by half. . While he did all this, he carefully constructed an image of himself as a deeply feeling humanitarian. Winner of the Duff Cooper Prize in 1999, *King Leopold's Ghost* is the true and haunting account of this man's brutal regime and its lasting effect on a ruined nation. It is also the inspiring and deeply moving account of a handful of missionaries and

other idealists who travelled to Africa and unwittingly found themselves in the middle of a gruesome holocaust. Instead of turning away, these brave few chose to stand up against Leopold. Adam Hochschild brings life to this largely untold story and, crucially, casts blame on those responsible for this atrocity.

The Tale of the Dueling Neurosurgeons - Sam Kean 2014-05-06

The author of the bestseller *The Disappearing Spoon* reveals the secret inner workings of the brain through strange but true stories. Early studies of the human brain used a simple method: wait for misfortune to strike -- strokes, seizures, infectious diseases, horrendous accidents -- and see how victims coped. In many cases their survival was miraculous, if puzzling. Observers were amazed by the transformations that took place when different parts of the brain were destroyed, altering victims' personalities. Parents suddenly couldn't recognize their own children. Pillars of

the community became pathological liars. Some people couldn't speak but could still sing. In *The Tale of the Dueling Neurosurgeons*, Sam Kean travels through time with stories of neurological curiosities: phantom limbs, Siamese twin brains, viruses that eat patients' memories, blind people who see through their tongues. He weaves these narratives together with prose that makes the pages fly by, to create a story of discovery that reaches back to the 1500s and the high-profile jousting accident that inspired this book's title.* With the lucid, masterful explanations and razor-sharp wit his fans have come to expect, Kean explores the brain's secret passageways and recounts the forgotten tales of the ordinary people whose struggles, resilience, and deep humanity made neuroscience possible. *"*The Tale of the Dueling Neurosurgeons*" refers to the case of French king Henri II, who in 1559 was lanced through the skull during a joust, resulting in one of the

most significant cases in neuroscience history. For hundreds of years scientists have gained important lessons from traumatic accidents and illnesses, and such misfortunes still represent their greatest resource for discovery.

Il cucchiaino scomparso e altre storie della tavola periodica degli elementi - Sam Kean 2014

[Quantum Physics for Poets](#) -

Leon M. Lederman 2011-09-27

The Times Literary Supplement called their previous book, *Symmetry and the Beautiful Universe*: [A] tour de force of physics made simple. Quantum theory is the bedrock of contemporary physics and the basis of understanding matter in its tiniest dimensions and the vast universe as a whole. But for many, the theory remains an impenetrable enigma. Nobel Prize laureate Leon M. Lederman and Fermi lab theoretical physicist Christopher T. Hill seek to remedy this situation by both drawing on their scientific expertise and their talent for

communicating science to the general reader. In this lucid, informative book, designed for the curious, they make the seemingly daunting subject of quantum physics accessible, appealing, and exciting. Their story is partly historical, covering the many Eureka moments when great scientists—Max Planck, Albert Einstein, Niels Bohr, Werner Heisenberg, Erwin Schrödinger, and others—struggled to come to grips with the bizarre realities that quantum research revealed. Although their findings were indisputably proven in experiments, they were so strange and counterintuitive that Einstein refused to accept quantum theory, despite its great success. The authors explain the many strange and even eerie aspects of quantum reality at the subatomic level, from particles that can be in many places simultaneously and sometimes act more like waves, to the effect that a human can have on their movements by just observing them! Finally, Drs. Lederman

and Hill delve into quantum physics' latest and perhaps most breathtaking offshoots—field theory and string theory. The intricacies and ramifications of these two theories will give the reader much to ponder. In addition, the authors describe the diverse applications of quantum theory in its almost countless forms of modern technology throughout the world. Using eloquent analogies and illustrative examples, *Quantum Physics for Poets* renders even the most profound reaches of quantum theory understandable and something for us all to savor. Leon M. Lederman, Nobel Laureate (Batavia, IL), is Resident Scholar at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, Director Emeritus of Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Pritzker Professor of Science at the Illinois Institute of Technology, the author of the highly acclaimed *The God Particle*, the editor of *Portraits of Great American Scientists*, and a contributor to *Science Literacy for the*

Twenty-First Century. Dr. Lederman and coauthor Christopher T. Hill are also the coauthors of *Symmetry and the Beautiful Universe*. Christopher T. Hill, PhD (Batavia, IL), is chairman of the Department of Theoretical Physics and a theoretical physicist (Scientist III) at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

Portami oltre il buio - Giorgio Boatti

2016-05-19T00:00:00+02:00

«I sogni ammonitori sono arrivati prima che partissi. Sono saliti al volo sull'idea di questo viaggio. Loro non ci credono proprio ai semi di nuovo, quelli sparsi da questi anni difficili. Forse, semplicemente, non li vogliono vedere. Non credono possibile un girar pagina, rispetto al passato, capace di renderci diversi, forse persino migliori di ciò che siamo stati...» Ecco l'Italia irrequieta ma non domata dalle difficoltà di questi anni. Un Paese che si mette alla prova, con grinta e speranza, afferra i cambiamenti e supera timori e autodenigrazioni. Oltre il buio,

appunto. È stata così lunga e severa la crisi che immaginare la vita degli italiani 'dopo' pareva una sfida impossibile. Nasce così questa esplorazione che dal Monferrato scivola leggera sino al Parco dei Paduli nel Salento; salta da un coworking di Matera alle periferie di Genova e sosta nel virtuoso paese dell'"ulivo sospeso", tra l'Amiata e il Chianti. E ancora: da Roma, dirimpetto a Santa Marta, va alla reggia di Babette, nel cuore della Food Valley emiliana, dove è sbocciata una scuola molto speciale e, da un'avveniristica 'play factory', tra i colli di Jesi, finisce all'Hotel Etico di Asti che punta a rendere inclusiva, anche per i più fragili, un'intera città. Ogni tappa di questo viaggio sorprendente è il racconto di un futuro inaspettato e vitale che non è dietro l'angolo. È già qui.

King Solomon's Ring -

Konrad Lorenz 2003-08-27

Solomon, the legend goes, had a magic ring which enabled him to speak to the animals in their own language. Konrad

Lorenz was gifted with a similar power of understanding the animal world. He was that rare beast, a brilliant scientist who could write (and indeed draw) beautifully. He did more than any other person to establish and popularize the study of how animals behave, receiving a Nobel Prize for his work. *King Solomon's Ring*, the book which brought him worldwide recognition, is a delightful treasury of observations and insights into the lives of all sorts of creatures, from jackdaws and water-shrews to dogs, cats and even wolves. Charmingly illustrated by Lorenz himself, this book is a wonderfully written introduction to the world of our furred and feathered friends, a world which often provides an uncanny resemblance to our own. A must for any animal-lover!

Il cucchiaino scomparso - Sam Kean

2017-10-26T00:00:00+02:00

Fra le elementari nozioni scientifiche insegnate anche a scuola, poche sono così

sconcertanti e fanno altrettanto sognare come la tavola periodica degli elementi, scoperta nel 1869 da Mendeleev e, autonomamente, da J.L. Meyer. Ci voleva un libro come quello di Sam Kean - intreccio di eclettismo disciplinare e vasta erudizione - perché dietro ogni simbolo e ogni numero atomico si spalancassero sequenze stupefacenti in tutti gli ambiti dell'esperienza e della conoscenza umana.

Punteggiato di magnifici aneddoti (come quello, evocato nel titolo, del cucchiaino di gallio che si scioglie al contatto del tè caldo, permettendo trucchi alla Houdini) e digressioni narrative, questo volume è un'introduzione affascinante e piena di verve alla conoscenza di ciò che costituisce il nostro pianeta e il resto dell'universo.

The Periodic Table - Primo Levi
1996-10-01

The Periodic Table is largely a memoir of the years before and after Primo Levi's transportation from his native Italy to Auschwitz as an anti-

Facist partisan and a Jew. It recounts, in clear, precise, unfailingly beautiful prose, the story of the Piedmontese Jewish community from which Levi came, of his years as a student and young chemist at the inception of the Second World War, and of his investigations into the nature of the material world. As such, it provides crucial links and backgrounds, both personal and intellectual, in the tremendous project of remembrance that is Levi's gift to posterity. But far from being a prologue to his experience of the Holocaust, Levi's masterpiece represents his most impassioned response to the events that engulfed him. The Periodic Table celebrates the pleasures of love and friendship and the search for meaning, and stands as a monument to those things in us that are capable of resisting and enduring in the face of tyranny.

Mes Souvenirs - Massimo Dazeglio 2019-02-23

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important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work was reproduced from the original artifact, and remains as true to the original work as possible. Therefore, you will see the original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other notations in the work. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. As a reproduction of a historical artifact, this work may contain missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of

keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

The Notebook - Jose

Saramago 2011-05-01

Thought-provoking and lyrical, The Notebook records the last year in the life of José Saramago. In these pages, beginning on the eve of the 2008 US presidential election, he evokes life in his beloved city of Lisbon, revisits conversations with friends, and meditates on his favorite authors. Precise observations and moments of arresting significance are rendered with pointillist detail, and together demonstrate an acute understanding of our times. Characteristically critical and uncompromising, Saramago dissects the financial crisis, deplores Israel's punishment of Gaza, and reflects on the rise of Barack Obama. The Notebook is a unique journey into the personal and political world of one of the greatest writers of our time.

Napoleon's Buttons - Penny Le

Couteur 2004-05-24

Napoleon's Buttons is the fascinating account of

seventeen groups of molecules that have greatly influenced the course of history. These molecules provided the impetus for early exploration, and made possible the voyages of discovery that ensued. The molecules resulted in grand feats of engineering and spurred advances in medicine and law; they determined what we now eat, drink, and wear. A change as small as the position of an atom can lead to enormous alterations in the properties of a substance- which, in turn, can result in great historical shifts. With lively prose and an eye for colorful and unusual details, Le Couteur and Burreson offer a novel way to understand the shaping of civilization and the workings of our contemporary world.

Organoselenium Chemistry -

Brindaban C. Ranu 2020-04-20

Organoselenium Chemistry is a unique resource in this branch of organic/organometallic chemistry. The authors give an overview of synthesis strategies, introduce bioactive and environmentally friendly

organoselenium compounds and discuss their applications from organic synthesis to the clinic.

L'origine di (quasi) tutto -

Graham Lawton 2017-12-11

La domanda è antica come l'uomo: da dove veniamo? Da dove viene la Terra? Da dove viene l'Universo? Da dove viene... tutto? Attingendo a qualcosa come 13,7 miliardi di anni di storia dell'Universo, l'editor di «New Scientist» Graham Lawton e l'illustratrice Jennifer Daniel ci raccontano come tutto (o quasi) è cominciato. Complice una grafica chiara e accattivante, Lawton ci guida in un viaggio dalle origini ai giorni nostri, ripercorrendo le scoperte scientifiche che hanno cambiato la nostra visione del mondo e - perché no? - la nostra quotidianità. Si passa dall'infinitamente grande (cos'ha innescato il Big Bang?) all'infinitamente piccolo (perché ci sono tanti insetti sulla Terra?), dal sublime (il mistero delle emozioni umane) al triviale (come si forma la lanugine ombelicale?). Dopo

tutto, come disse il leggendario Carl Sagan, «se vuoi preparare una torta da zero... devi prima inventare l'Universo!».

La decima musa - Vincenzo

Schettino 2016-10-12

È possibile raccontare la scienza con gli strumenti della poesia? Questo libro esplora la questione esaminando dapprima il pensiero, spesso contraddittorio, di scienziati e poeti, per poi presentare una antologia di 'poesie scientifiche'. L'ampiezza e la varietà di accenti sono sorprendenti: si va dal semplice racconto di frammenti della scienza, una poesia talora didascalica, alla meraviglia e alla celebrazione di grandi scoperte e protagonisti, alla scienza come metafora delle vicende umane, alle implicazioni sociali e ambientali del suo uso, alla poesia come veicolo per un più amichevole approccio al mondo naturale, all'umorismo insito nei fatti tecnici. L'ampiezza di queste tematiche sembra sostanziare quello che Montale diceva della poesia: «basta un foglio di carta e una matita e il

gioco è fatto».

Uncle Tungsten - Oliver Sacks 2013-12-11

Long before Oliver Sacks became a distinguished neurologist and bestselling writer, he was a small English boy fascinated by metals—also by chemical reactions (the louder and smellier the better), photography, squids and cuttlefish, H.G. Wells, and the periodic table. In this endlessly charming and eloquent memoir, the author of *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat* and *Awakenings* chronicles his love affair with science and the magnificently odd and sometimes harrowing childhood in which that love affair unfolded. In *Uncle Tungsten* we meet Sacks' extraordinary family, from his surgeon mother (who introduces the fourteen-year-old Oliver to the art of human dissection) and his father, a family doctor who imbues in his son an early enthusiasm for housecalls, to his "Uncle Tungsten," whose factory produces tungsten-filament lightbulbs. We follow the young

Oliver as he is exiled at the age of six to a grim, sadistic boarding school to escape the London Blitz, and later watch as he sets about passionately reliving the exploits of his chemical heroes—in his own home laboratory. *Uncle Tungsten* is a crystalline view of a brilliant young mind springing to life, a story of growing up which is by turns elegiac, comic, and wistful, full of the electrifying joy of discovery.

The Science of Can and Can't - Chiara Marletto 2022-05-03

A luminous guide to how the radical new science of counterfactuals can reveal that the scope of the universe is greater, and more beautiful, than we ever imagined. There is a vast class of things that science has so far almost entirely neglected. They are central to the understanding of physical reality both at an everyday level and at the level of the most fundamental phenomena in physics, yet have traditionally been assumed to be impossible to incorporate

into fundamental scientific explanations. They are facts not about what is (the actual) but about what could be (counterfactuals). According to physicist Chiara Marletto, laws about things being possible or impossible may generate an alternative way of providing explanations. This fascinating, far-reaching approach holds promise for revolutionizing the way fundamental physics is formulated and for providing essential tools to face existing technological challenges--from delivering the next generation of information-processing devices beyond the universal quantum computer to designing AIs. Each chapter in the book delineates how an existing vexed open problem in science can be solved by this radically different approach and it is augmented by short fictional stories that explicate the main point of the chapter. As Marletto demonstrates, contemplating what is possible can give us a more complete and hopeful picture of the physical world.

Radar, Hula Hoops, and Playful

Pigs - Joe Schwarcz 2001-08-30
Presents a collection of essays that explore the chemistry found in everyday life.

Wonderful Life with the Elements - Bunpei Yorifuji
2012-09-12

From the brilliant mind of Japanese artist Bunpei Yorifuji comes *Wonderful Life with the Elements*, an illustrated guide to the periodic table that gives chemistry a friendly face. In this super periodic table, every element is a unique character whose properties are represented visually: heavy elements are fat, man-made elements are robots, and noble gases sport impressive afros. Every detail is significant, from the length of an element's beard to the clothes on its back. You'll also learn about each element's discovery, its common uses, and other vital stats like whether it floats—or explodes—in water. Why bother trudging through a traditional periodic table? In this periodic paradise, the elements are people too. And once you've met them, you'll never forget them.

The Universal Computer -

Martin Davis 2018-10-08

The breathtakingly rapid pace of change in computing makes it easy to overlook the pioneers who began it all. Written by Martin Davis, respected logician and researcher in the theory of computation, *The Universal Computer: The Road from Leibniz to Turing* explores the fascinating lives, ideas, and discoveries of seven remarkable mathematicians. It tells the stories of the unsung heroes of the computer age - the logicians. The story begins with Leibniz in the 17th century and then focuses on Boole, Frege, Cantor, Hilbert, and Gödel, before turning to Turing. Turing's analysis of algorithmic processes led to a single, all-purpose machine that could be programmed to carry out such processes—the computer. Davis describes how this incredible group, with lives as extraordinary as their accomplishments, grappled with logical reasoning and its mechanization. By investigating their achievements and failures, he

shows how these pioneers paved the way for modern computing. Bringing the material up to date, in this revised edition Davis discusses the success of the IBM Watson on Jeopardy, reorganizes the information on incompleteness, and adds information on Konrad Zuse. A distinguished prize-winning logician, Martin Davis has had a career of more than six decades devoted to the important interface between logic and computer science. His expertise, combined with his genuine love of the subject and excellent storytelling, make him the perfect person to tell this story.

Gödel, Escher, Bach -

Douglas R. Hofstadter 2000

'What is a self and how can a self come out of inanimate matter?' This is the riddle that drove Douglas Hofstadter to write this extraordinary book. In order to impart his original and personal view on the core mystery of human existence - our intangible sensation of 'I'-ness - Hofstadter defines the playful yet seemingly paradoxical notion of 'strange

loop', and explicates this idea using analogies from many disciplines.

The Tangled Tree - David Quammen 2019-08-06

In this New York Times bestseller and longlist nominee for the National Book Award, "our greatest living chronicler of the natural world" (The New York Times), David Quammen explains how recent discoveries in molecular biology affect our understanding of evolution and life's history. In the mid-1970s, scientists began using DNA sequences to reexamine the history of all life. Perhaps the most startling discovery to come out of this new field—the study of life's diversity and relatedness at the molecular level—is horizontal gene transfer (HGT), or the movement of genes across species lines. It turns out that HGT has been widespread and important; we now know that roughly eight percent of the human genome arrived sideways by viral infection—a type of HGT. In *The Tangled Tree*, "the grandest tale in

biology....David Quammen presents the science—and the scientists involved—with patience, candor, and flair" (Nature). We learn about the major players, such as Carl Woese, the most important little-known biologist of the twentieth century; Lynn Margulis, the notorious maverick whose wild ideas about "mosaic" creatures proved to be true; and Tsutomu Wantanabe, who discovered that the scourge of antibiotic-resistant bacteria is a direct result of horizontal gene transfer, bringing the deep study of genome histories to bear on a global crisis in public health. "David Quammen proves to be an immensely well-informed guide to a complex story" (The Wall Street Journal). In *The Tangled Tree*, he explains how molecular studies of evolution have brought startling recognitions about the tangled tree of life—including where we humans fit upon it. Thanks to new technologies, we now have the ability to alter even our genetic

composition—through sideways insertions, as nature has long been doing. “The Tangled Tree is a source of wonder....Quammen has written a deep and daring intellectual adventure” (The Boston Globe).

The Lamplighter - Maria Susanna Cummins 1854
Abandoned and mistreated, little Gerty is an angry and sometimes violent child, but is taken in by the gentle, virtuous lamplighter. From his gentle behavior Gerty learns how to curb her anger and let her virtue shine forth.

In the Sea There are Crocodiles - Fabio Geda
2011-08-09

When ten-year-old Enaiatollah Akbari’s small village in Afghanistan falls prey to Taliban rule in early 2000, his mother shepherds the boy across the border into Pakistan but has to leave him there all alone to fend for himself. Thus begins Enaiat’s remarkable and often punishing five-year

ordeal, which takes him through Iran, Turkey, and Greece before he seeks political asylum in Italy at the age of fifteen. Along the way, Enaiat endures the crippling physical and emotional agony of dangerous border crossings, trekking across bitterly cold mountain pathways for days on end or being stuffed into the false bottom of a truck. But not everyone is as resourceful, resilient, or lucky as Enaiat, and there are many heart-wrenching casualties along the way. Based on Enaiat’s close collaboration with Italian novelist Fabio Geda and expertly rendered in English by an award-winning translator, this novel reconstructs the young boy’s memories, perfectly preserving the childlike perspective and rhythms of an intimate oral history. Told with humor and humanity, *In the Sea There Are Crocodiles* brilliantly captures Enaiat’s moving and engaging voice and lends urgency to an epic story of hope and survival.