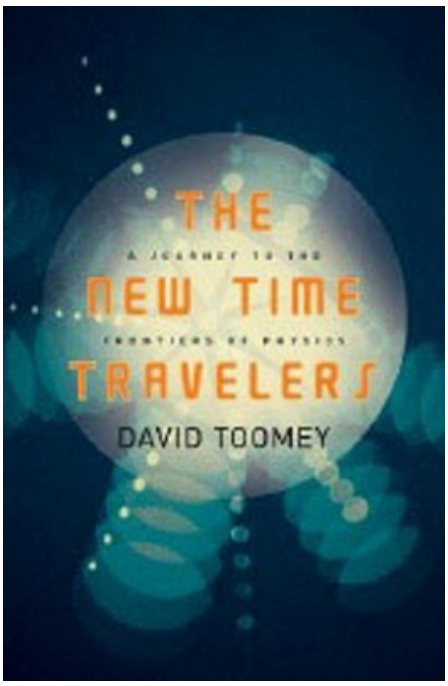

The New Time Travelers: A Journey to the Frontiers of Physics

David M. Toomey

The New Time Travelers: A Journey to the Frontiers of Physics

David M. Toomey

The New Time Travelers: A Journey to the Frontiers of Physics David M. Toomey
Since H. G. Wells' 1895 classic *The Time Machine*, readers of science fiction have puzzled over the paradoxes of time travel. What would happen if a time traveler tried to change history? Would some force or law of nature prevent him? Or would his action produce a "new" history, branching away from the original?

In the last decade of the twentieth century a group of theoretical physicists at the California Institute of Technology undertook a serious investigation of the possibility of pastward time travel, inspiring a serious and sustained study that engaged more than thirty physicists working at universities and institutes around the world.

Many of the figures involved are familiar: Einstein, Stephen Hawking and Kip Thorne; others are names known mostly to physicists. These are the new time travelers, and this is the story of their work--a profoundly human endeavor marked by advances, retreats, and no small share of surprises. It is a fantastic journey to the frontiers of physics.

The New Time Travelers: A Journey to the Frontiers of Physics Details

Date	:	Published July 17th 2007 by W. W. Norton Company (first published July 10th 2007)
ISBN	:	9780393060133
Author	:	David M. Toomey
Format	:	Hardcover 400 pages
Genre	:	Science, Nonfiction, Physics, Science Fiction, Time Travel

From Reader Review The New Time Travelers: A Journey to the Frontiers of Physics for online ebook

Greg Berghorn says

Time travel discussion is no longer just in the fiction section of the library.

Kyler Tolman says

Seriously one of the most mind blowing books I've ever read. I enjoyed every page and the many hours consumed in thoughts about the physics and possibilities presented. I would love to keep rereading this book.

Jeremiah Genest says

David Toomey describes in fascinating detail all the ways current science allows for time travel (and there are a lot!). From Einstein's general theory of relativity to wormholes and closed time-like curves, this is an entertaining and authoritative survey of a mind-blowing, scarcely believable field, and the story of the theoretical physicists at the forefront of its study.

Mike says

HOLY CRAP and WTF?! This stuff is real! Takes me awhile to wrap my head around each new chapter, but damn! I'm quickly becoming obsessed with physics.....

Sean Vallor says

A very readable book with good explanations of some interesting possibilities in theoretical physics. You could say it is worth the time to travel to a place where you can obtain a copy.

Scott says

This is a pretty readable account of the history of physicists' inquiries into the possibility of time travel. It doesn't get too bogged down in arcane scientific details and is, for the most part, accessible to the lay person.

Sue says

Sorry to say I didn't finish it before it was due at the library, and I knew I wouldn't have time to if I renewed it. What I DID read was fascinating, though. If you're looking for something comprehensible on the quantum mechanics of time travel, it's the book for you.

Roger says

Not exactly what I hoped it would be, namely, a more detailed view of the topic, the book felt more like a incoherent collection of short stories about physicists bickering. The interesting chapter - and the only reason for a second star - was the one about black holes.

Oh, and a good side effect was that after reading ten pages I was usually ready to go to fall asleep.

James Pratt says

A book about speculative science that reads like a collection of plot kernels for science fiction novels. I didn't understand all of it but still found it pretty dang entertaining.

Todd says

David Toomey's book is interesting, but doesn't really break any new ground. He's essentially rehashing all the same ideas that have already been presented by established scientists like Stephen Hawking in "A Brief History of Time" and Brian Greene in "The Fabric of the Cosmos" and "The Elegant Universe".

As a non-scientist, but technical writer, Toomey does a good job of presenting hard to comprehend concepts in exotic physics, and the book really excels in giving a history of where some of these ideas came from, and the history of the theoretical physicists that came up with these idea. I consider myself quite well read on the subject of theoretical physics, but I had never heard the story of Willem Jacob van Stockum. I was somewhat familiar with the idea of a Van Stockum Cylinder, but had never heard the story of the man, and where that thought experiment came from.

Ultimately the book focuses on theoretical physics as it relates to time and provides a good history and context for these ideas, which can be very hard to comprehend, it's a good book, but fails to reach the heights of other works in the field.

Rohit Thawani says

I'm too stupid for this book

Chris capp says

Very techie and physics based. Awesome ideas not sure these will be the pathway though...

Shan says

Very interesting but gave me a headache trying to comprehend the ideas the book conveyed.

Rochelle says

Put theoretical physics in close to layman's terms. Explained time travel well enough so even a weak background in physics made it easier to understand. I don't get all of it but I get more than before I read it haha

---

Peter says

Pretty good overall. Good mix of the history of physics and the application of it as it pertains to our world in general and time travel theory specifically. If you're looking for hard-core science, this might not be for you, but it's generally a good text.
