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Steven D. Bloom's (Hampden-Sydney College) book titled *The Physics and Astronomy of Science Fiction: Understanding Interstellar Travel, Teleportation, Time Travel, Alien Life, and Other Genre Fixtures* is extremely unique in that it is more a book about physics and astronomy than about science fiction. Although that may seem counterintuitive, this should not keep people from reading the book because Steven D. Bloom makes the information simple and easy to understand for those who do not have a background in physics and/or astronomy.

The book is split into 10 chapters that (with the exception of the first two chapters) explain and examine different ideas about the fields of physics and astronomy. The first two chapters provide the reader a crucial foundation or introduction in physics and astronomy. These chapters provide an important base for laymen to then have a more concise grasp on the basic material before moving into the major ideas in the book. The physics section describes and clarifies ideas such as what forces (and forces of nature) are and how they work, what conservation of energy and momentum are, thermodynamics, nuclear reactions, how relativity and quantum mechanics work and how they are related, subatomic particles, chaos and fractals, and concludes with a look at the consistency of the constants of nature. The next section introduces astronomy and its concepts by explaining what astronomical phenomena are, helps to clear up misconceptions people carry about outer space and how it works, measurements, the origins of the universe, dark energy and dark matter, what cosmic inflation is, star formations and how stars work, stellar observations and evolutions, planet formations and exoplanets, what terraforming is, comets and asteroids, and global warming.

The rest of the chapters combine the previously stated theories and ideas and turns them into applicable concepts (applicable from a science fiction standpoint). These new concepts are then broken down and explained while also being seamlessly integrated into science fiction movies, books, and television shows. The different types of science fiction media that are incorporated into the book are used as ways to present examples and visuals that relate to the subject matter that is being discussed. This adds to keeping the audience interested as well as relating the material to those who decided to read the book.

The chapters discuss how space travel works, the different parts of space/the universe/ different dimensions, the concept of time travel, cybernetics, how to teleport and replicate someone, high tech weapons, aliens, and superpowers. The examples and pictures used to illustrate these concepts are presented in a variety of forms including novels, movies, and television shows. The book also provides examples used to illustrate these concepts. These examples range from *Star Trek* to *Dr. Who* to *War of the Worlds* to *2001: A Space Odyssey*. The time frames in these examples also differs greatly—spanning from examples of today all the way

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