

# Stephen Hawking A Life In Science Michael White

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Hawking Hawking - Charles Seife 2021-04-06  
Stephen Hawking was widely recognized as the world's best physicist and even the most brilliant man alive—but what if his true talent was self-promotion? When Stephen Hawking died, he was widely recognized as the world's best physicist,

and even its smartest person. He was neither. In Hawking Hawking, science journalist Charles Seife explores how Stephen Hawking came to be thought of as humanity's greatest genius. Hawking spent his career grappling with deep questions in physics, but his renown didn't rest

on his science. He was a master of self-promotion, hosting parties for time travelers, declaring victory over problems he had not solved, and wooing billionaires. In a wheelchair and physically dependent on a cadre of devotees, Hawking still managed to captivate the people around him—and use them for his own purposes. A brilliant exposé and powerful biography, Hawking uncovers the authentic Hawking buried underneath the fake. It is the story of a man whose brilliance in physics was matched by his genius for building his own myth.

*In Search of Schrodinger's Cat* - John Gribbin  
2011-05-04

Quantum theory is so shocking that Einstein could not bring himself to accept it. It is so important that it provides the fundamental underpinning of all modern sciences. Without it, we'd have no nuclear power or nuclear weapons, no TV, no computers, no science of molecular biology, no understanding of DNA, no genetic engineering. *In Search of Schrodinger's Cat* tells

the complete story of quantum mechanics, a truth stranger than any fiction. John Gribbin takes us step by step into an ever more bizarre and fascinating place, requiring only that we approach it with an open mind. He introduces the scientists who developed quantum theory. He investigates the atom, radiation, time travel, the birth of the universe, superconductors and life itself. And in a world full of its own delights, mysteries and surprises, he searches for Schrodinger's Cat - a search for quantum reality - as he brings every reader to a clear understanding of the most important area of scientific study today - quantum physics. *In Search of Schrodinger's Cat* is a fascinating and delightful introduction to the strange world of the quantum - an essential element in understanding today's world.

**Tolkien: a Biography** - Michael J. White  
2003-11-04

*Tolkien: A Biography* by Michael White is a comprehensive, in-depth, and entertaining

biography of one of the greatest and most influential fantasy authors of modern time, J.R.R. Tolkien.

C.S. Lewis - Michael White 2004

An insightful new portrait of the writer and Christian theologian, reveals a depressive, spiritually tormented man who nevertheless forged a respectable career as a scholar, a writer of fantasy books like the Chronicles of Narnia, and a Christian apologist.

Galileo Galilei - Michael White 1999

Describes the life and work of the scientist who was persecuted by the Inquisition for his views of the universe.

Isaac Newton - Michael White 1997-12-31

Recounts Newton's life as an alchemist and describes him as a tortured, obsessive individual who would risk his own health in his quest for an understanding of the universe

**The Science of the X-files** - Michael White 1996

The Medici Secret - Michael White 2008

In the crypt of the Medici Chapel in Florence, palaeopathologist, Edie Granger, and her uncle, Carlin Mackenzie, are examining the mummified remains of one of the most powerful families in Renaissance Italy. Edie and Mackenzie both have serious doubts about the true identity of at least two of the five-hundred-year-old bodies.

**Acid Tongues and Tranquil Dreamers** -

Michael White 2002-11-01

A history of science focuses on the rivalries underpinning some of the most important scientific and technological discoveries in human history.

**What's Out There** - Mary K. Baumann

2005-01-01

What's Out There draws upon discoveries by the most recent space probes, bringing together more than 150 breathtaking images of the universe - from close-ups of the surface of Mars to the far reaches of space. Structured alphabetically for ease of use, the journey

includes highlights such as a volcano on Jupiter's satellite Io, nebulas in Orion's belt, and the birth-pangs and death-throes of the stars. For each topic covered there is concisely accessible expert commentary, and for each photograph a caption with a data box providing key facts.

*Einstein* - Michael White 1995

A biography of the archetypal scientist traces Einstein's monumental advances in thermodynamics and physics and offers a detailed appreciation of his profound influence on the direction of all subsequent scientific inquiry

LA RECHERCHE DE STEPHEN HAWKING - 2014

*The Story of John Nightly* - Tot Taylor  
2017-07-27

'I loved the creativity, the unpredictability, its dazzling coverage of so many ideas' Rob Cowan  
'Superb . . . An original character and an original book' David Quantick, Record Collector Can John

Nightly be brought back to life again? John Nightly (b. 1948) finds his dimension in pop music, the art form of his time. His solo album becomes one of 1970's bestselling records – but success turns out to have side effects.

Supermaxed in LA after a dazzling career, John renounces his gift, denying music and his very being, until he is rediscovered in Cornwall thirty years later by a teenage saviour dude, who persuades him to restore and complete his quasi-porto-multimedia eco-Mass, the Mink Bungalow Requiem. This epic novel mixes real and imagined lives in the tale of a young singer-songwriter, to tell a story about creativity at the highest level – the level of genius.

**Tolkien** - Michael White 2001

This biography recounts Tolkien's early childhood in South Africa followed by his family's return to England after his banker father's death. The Tolkiens settled in the highly industrialized city of Birmingham in the 1890s which was still surrounded by breathtaking

countryside. Thus the industrialized heart of the Empire and the sylvan idyll of the woods and hills became important extremes for much of Tolkien's thinking and writing, leading up to that most inspired moment when, as an Oxford don, Tolkien was marking exam papers and noticed his student had left a blank page in the answer book. Suddenly he wrote: In a hole in the ground there lived a Hobbit. In typical Tolkien fashion, he was intrigued by this and decided to find out more about hobbits. The rest is history.

### **The Theory Of Everything (With Cd) -**

Stephen Hawking 2008-01-01

Collector's Edition with Audiobook read by the Author Stephen Hawking is widely believed to be one of the world's greatest minds: a brilliant theoretical physicist whose work helped to reconfigure models of the universe and to redefine what's in it. Imagine sitting in a room listening to Hawking discuss these achievements and place them in historical context. It would be like hearing Christopher Columbus on the New

World. Hawking presents a series of seven lectures covering everything from big bang to black holes to string theory that capture not only the brilliance of Hawking's mind but his characteristic wit as well. Of his research on black holes, which absorbed him for more than a decade, he says, It might seem a bit like looking for a black cat in a coal cellar. Hawking begins with a history of ideas about the universe, from Aristotle's determination that the Earth is round to Hubble's discovery, over 2000 years later, that the universe is expanding. Using that as a launching pad, he explores the reaches of modern physics, including theories on the origin of the universe (e.g., the big bang), the nature of black holes, and space-time.

### **Astronomers and Cosmologists -** Dean Miller 2014-01-01

In this book, a breakdown of the life and work of some of history's pioneers in the study of astronomy and cosmology are thoroughly explored. This volume provides excellent

biographical sketches for trailblazers in the sciences. Articles are devoted to specific scientists, covering the contributions to their field, specifically addressing how their research, discoveries, and inventions impacted human understanding and experience. This historical review includes scientists from around the world and throughout the centuries, with a chapter specifically devoted to the top scientific contributors of the 21st century.

**Genius Minds: Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking - 2 Books in 1!** - Michael Woodford  
2019-02-25

GENIUS MINDS: Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking - 2 Books in 1! Featuring\*Albert Einstein\*Stephen Hawking 2 Great Books In 1!  
Albert Einstein Albert Einstein is the most recognizable face of science. The man who created the theory of relativity, alongside so many other breakthroughs in the world of physics, though, was so much more than just a scientist. A philosopher, musician, humanitarian.

A pacifist. Einstein was never a man to back down in a fight, and never one to accept the words of authority if they were unjustified, or harmful to others. The kindly, white haired old man, was a flawed genius. A man who possessed excellence in science, a deep love for humanity, struggled in his personal life. This is the story of Albert Einstein, the greatest intellect of the twentieth century, perhaps of all time. Stephen Hawking Dennis William Sciama (1926 - 1999) was a don at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom. He was one of the most eminent physicists of his time. In 1963 he was informed that he was to receive a new pupil, a young man from Oxford who wished to undertake his doctoral thesis under his tutelage. There was nothing unusual in this. Mentoring new pupils was part and parcel of a university academic's life. However the new pupil seemed, on the face of it, unremarkable. In fact he had the reputation of a lazy and somewhat difficult student. In his written exam at Oxford he had

achieved neither a first nor a second degree. A first would have entitled him to undertake postgraduate studies at Cambridge; a second at Oxford. He had to submit to an oral exam, an ordeal that terrified him but nevertheless impressed his examiners who remarked that they faced intelligence greater than there on. After a while Sciamia also agreed that he was dealing with a highly potent intellect. This man was only 21 years old and moreover had just been given 2 years to live. His name was Stephen William Hawking. Since then, Stephen Hawking has gone on to become one of the most eminent scientists of his generation, internationally respected and famous for his work. This is his story.

*A Teaspoon and an Open Mind* - Michael White  
2005

How do you build a Tardis? What are the secrets of teleportation? Could Cybermen take over the world? Is telepathy possible - even for an alien? Will extra-terrestrials one day visit planet earth

on their travels through the galaxy? Can a robotic dog catch a cold ...'Take a journey with the Time Lords as Michael White guides us through the real science behind Doctor Who. Here he shows us how one of the world's best-loved science-fiction programmes is actually based on genuine theories - some of which could soon become a reality. Drawing on the latest discoveries, on shows from Star Trek to The X-Files and films like Twelve Monkeys and Contact, he asks (among other things): is time travel possible through a wormhole? What are the dangers? Could we make contact with life on other planets? How could aliens get here? And how soon until creatures like the Daleks become a reality? He also looks at areas as varied as crystal power, robotics, shape-shifting and multi-dimensions, not to mention the mysterious science of chameleon technology' currently under study by major military research organizations. We even discover how, with the use of cybernetics to replace body parts - or

maybe regenerate whole bodies - Doctor Who could hold the key to eternal life. A book for avid fans and the merely curious, *A Teaspoon and an Open Mind* reveals that reality is even stranger than science fiction ...

*Stephen Hawking* - Cath Senker 2015-07-02

This series will tell the amazing stories of inspiring people who have made a difference and changed the world, despite the odds stacked against them. They will detail the characters' humble origins, the obstacles standing in their way that had to be overcome, and discuss the successes and achievements for which they are lauded today.

*Hubble's Universe* - Simon Goodwin 1997

A gallery of the most significant photographs of space as taken by the Hubble telescope explains what Hubble's achievements can tell us about the universe, its origins, and its future.

Astronomy Bk Club, Lib of Science Bk Club, & Natural Science Bk Club.

**The End Of Science** - John Horgan 2015-04-14

As staff writer for *Scientific American*, John Horgan has a window on contemporary science unsurpassed in all the world. Who else routinely interviews the likes of Lynn Margulis, Roger Penrose, Francis Crick, Richard Dawkins, Freeman Dyson, Murray Gell-Mann, Stephen Jay Gould, Stephen Hawking, Thomas Kuhn, Chris Langton, Karl Popper, Stephen Weinberg, and E.O. Wilson, with the freedom to probe their innermost thoughts? In *The End Of Science*, Horgan displays his genius for getting these larger-than-life figures to be simply human, and scientists, he writes, "are rarely so human . . . so at their mercy of their fears and desires, as when they are confronting the limits of knowledge." This is the secret fear that Horgan pursues throughout this remarkable book: Have the big questions all been answered? Has all the knowledge worth pursuing become known? Will there be a final "theory of everything" that signals the end? Is the age of great discoverers behind us? Is science today reduced to mere

puzzle solving and adding details to existing theories? Horgan extracts surprisingly candid answers to there and other delicate questions as he discusses God, Star Trek, superstrings, quarks, plectics, consciousness, Neural Darwinism, Marx's view of progress, Kuhn's view of revolutions, cellular automata, robots, and the Omega Point, with Fred Hoyle, Noam Chomsky, John Wheeler, Clifford Geertz, and dozens of other eminent scholars. The resulting narrative will both infuriate and delight as it mindless Horgan's smart, contrarian argument for "endism" with a witty, thoughtful, even profound overview of the entire scientific enterprise. Scientists have always set themselves apart from other scholars in the belief that they do not construct the truth, they discover it. Their work is not interpretation but simple revelation of what exists in the empirical universe. But science itself keeps imposing limits on its own power. Special relativity prohibits the transmission of matter or information as speeds

faster than that of light; quantum mechanics dictates uncertainty; and chaos theory confirms the impossibility of complete prediction. Meanwhile, the very idea of scientific rationality is under fire from Neo-Luddites, animal-rights activists, religious fundamentalists, and New Agers alike. As Horgan makes clear, perhaps the greatest threat to science may come from losing its special place in the hierarchy of disciplines, being reduced to something more akin to literary criticism as more and more theoreticians engage in the theory twiddling he calls "ironic science." Still, while Horgan offers his critique, grounded in the thinking of the world's leading researchers, he offers homage too. If science is ending, he maintains, it is only because it has done its work so well.

**The Birth of Time** - John Gribbin 1999-01-01  
Recent breakthroughs in measuring the age of the universe with the Hubble Space Telescope are the subject of this book, written by a science writer who was a research astronomer involved

in the discoveries. Illustrations.

**Leonardo** - Michael White 2001-10-12

Argues that the great "renaissance man" was in fact the first great modern man of science.

**Aftershock** - Sam Fisher 2010

For billionaire Michael Xavier, the opening of The Neptune Hotel in Fiji is the culmination of a childhood dream and an adult obsession - to build a luxury hotel, deep under water on the ocean bed. But during the glittering Opening Night Gala the unthinkable happens.

*Isaac Newton* - Michael White 1999

Describes the life and scientific contributions of the famed English mathematician who changed our perception of the universe.

**Machiavelli** - Michael White 2005

Machiavellian: a person who adopts the principles recommended, or supposed to have been recommended, by Machiavelli in his treatise on statecraft; a person who practises expediency in preference to morality; an intriguer or schemer. *Usu. derogatory.* For more

than five hundred years the name Machiavelli has resonated through the world of politics and power. He was an extraordinary man living in an extraordinary age: a brilliant thinker and theorist who was also a consummate diplomat. In this new biography of the Florentine political theorist and statesman, Michael White goes beyond our preconceptions to draw an objective picture of the author of *THE PRINCE* and *THE ART OF WAR*, who has been characterised for posterity as a corrupt, power-hungry demon whose works encouraged tyrants to kill and control. He does so by placing Machiavelli's remarkable life in the context of the Renaissance and its luminaries, such as the Borgias and Leonardo da Vinci.

**Galileo Antichrist** - Michael White 2009  
Groundbreaking biography of Galileo, one of the greatest scientists and religious heretics in history A giant of science, Galileo's achievements allow him to be bracketed alongside Newton, Einstein and Darwin. A

devout Roman Catholic, his genius threw him into conflict with his Church and his refusal to back down turned him into a martyr for many. Here, bestselling author Michael White gets to grips with the man and the world he challenged. Both biography and exploration of a time when religious and scientific understanding had become deeply and dangerously intertwined, **GALILEO ANTICHRIST** traces the path that led to its subject's denunciation as a heretic. And here the story is tainted with the suggestion of conspiracy and cover up. For while it is perfectly possible to view Galileo's collision with the Catholic Church as near inevitable, White draws on evidence recently discovered in the Vatican archives to question the accepted reasons for his trial. In doing so he shows why Galileo became such a contentious figure, so contentious in fact that, centuries later, the Pope, then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger felt driven to declare the process against the father of science as 'reasonable and just'.

**Isaac Newton** - Michael White 1997

"Unknown to all but a few, Newton was a practicing alchemist who dabbled with the occult, a tortured, obsessive character who searched for an understanding of the universe by whatever means possible. S"

**Life on the Edge** - Johnjoe McFadden

2016-07-26

New York Times bestseller • **Life on the Edge** alters our understanding of our world's fundamental dynamics through the use of quantum mechanics. Life is the most extraordinary phenomenon in the known universe; but how did it come to be? Even in an age of cloning and artificial biology, the remarkable truth remains: nobody has ever made anything living entirely out of dead material. Life remains the only way to make life. Are we still missing a vital ingredient in its creation? Using first-hand experience at the cutting edge of science, Jim Al-Khalili and Johnjoe Macfadden reveal that missing

ingredient to be quantum mechanics. Drawing on recent ground-breaking experiments around the world, each chapter in *Life on the Edge* illustrates one of life's puzzles: How do migrating birds know where to go? How do we really smell the scent of a rose? How do our genes copy themselves with such precision? *Life on the Edge* accessibly reveals how quantum mechanics can answer these probing questions of the universe. Guiding the reader through the rapidly unfolding discoveries of the last few years, Al-Khalili and McFadden describe the explosive new field of quantum biology and its potentially revolutionary applications, while offering insights into the biggest puzzle of all: what is life? As they brilliantly demonstrate in these groundbreaking pages, life exists on the quantum edge. Winner, Stephen Hawking Medal for Science Communication

*Superscience* - Michael White 1999

From alien abduction to Zombies, taking in earth magic, alchemy and psi powers, Michael White

has written a book for the millennium and beyond, which taps into our interest with anything humanity doesn't understand or can't explain. An intelligent, easily understandable look at the paranormal, from the author of *THE SCIENCE OF THE X-FILES*.

**Isaac Asimov** - Michael White 2005-04-15  
Isaac Asimov dominated science fiction for over half a century. He wrote over 400 books during the course of his career and was honored with every prize and award the science fiction community could give him. By his late teens, he had already embarked upon the works that would make him world-famous: the Robot stories, in which he laid down the Three Laws of Robotics, which are still accepted today by researchers into artificial intelligence; "Nightfall," arguably the best science fiction short story ever written; and the Foundation novels, where he established the idea of warring galactic empires, changing the face of science fiction forever. Bestselling author Michael

White's probing first-ever biography of this extraordinary writer takes us from Asimov's troubled childhood in New York to his ascendancy to the rank of "Grand Master," the highest honor in the science fiction world. With the success of last summer's hit film *I, Robot* and more Asimovian movies in the works, the founding father of science fiction is as influential and popular today as he was in the 1950s.

[The Joy of Science](#) - Jim Al-Khalili 2022-04-05  
Quantum physicist, New York Times bestselling author, and BBC host Jim Al-Khalili reveals how 8 lessons from the heart of science can help you get the most out of life Today's world is unpredictable and full of contradictions, and navigating its complexities while trying to make the best decisions is far from easy. *The Joy of Science* presents 8 short lessons on how to unlock the clarity, empowerment, and joy of thinking and living a little more scientifically. In this brief guide to leading a more rational life, acclaimed physicist Jim Al-Khalili invites readers

to engage with the world as scientists have been trained to do. The scientific method has served humankind well in its quest to see things as they really are, and underpinning the scientific method are core principles that can help us all navigate modern life more confidently.

Discussing the nature of truth and uncertainty, the role of doubt, the pros and cons of simplification, the value of guarding against bias, the importance of evidence-based thinking, and more, Al-Khalili shows how the powerful ideas at the heart of the scientific method are deeply relevant to the complicated times we live in and the difficult choices we make. Read this book and discover the joy of science. It will empower you to think more objectively, see through the fog of your own preexisting beliefs, and lead a more fulfilling life.

**Coffee with Isaac Newton** - Michael White  
2008

Presents a fictionalized interview with Isaac Newton, where the British physicist discusses

his life, his work, and his times.

*Rivals* - Michael White 2002

White's thesis is that the greatest advances in science come about through the stress of rivalry, whether between individual scientists, groups of scientists, institutions or even international communities of scientists. Not in this book do we have the thunderbolt of divine inspiration, or the placid, sterile and rather dull world in which it is popularly imagined the scientist lives: for White, great scientific advancements often find their origin and progression into the wider world through the very human battles for supremacy among the experts in any particular field, battles which can be born of jealousy, pettiness and simple personality clashes, as well as more noble instincts. The book deals with eight instances in the history of science and technology which changed the world, all of which have acute rivalry at their heart: Newton and Leibniz, Lavoisier and Priestley, Darwin and Wallace, Edison and Tesla, the race for the Atom Bomb,

Crick and Watson, the Space Race and Gates and Ellison.

**Simply Schrödinger** - John Gribbin 2021-12-07

Born in Vienna, Austria, Erwin Schrödinger (1887-1961) was the only child of a Catholic father and an Austrian-English Lutheran mother. He attended the University of Vienna, receiving his doctorate in 1910. For the next 45 years, he held positions at many different universities in Europe, the U.K., and the U.S., a result both of his antipathy to Nazism, as well as his unconventional lifestyle, which often involved living with multiple women at a time. After appointments at Oxford, Princeton, and the University of Graz in Austria, Schrödinger was invited in 1938 to help set up the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, where, from 1940 until his retirement in 1955, he served as the director of the School for Theoretical Physics. In addition to his groundbreaking work in physics—for which he received the Nobel Prize in 1933—Schrödinger had a lifelong

interest in philosophy and Eastern religion, and his lectures and writings included discussions of such topics as consciousness, free will, and the nature of reality. In *Simply Schrödinger*, acclaimed science writer John Gribbin takes the measure of this singular scientist, who stands with Einstein, Heisenberg, and Dirac as one of the creators of a new scientific reality. While the focus is primarily on Schrödinger's particular contributions to quantum physics—including wave mechanics and wave-particle duality, as well as the famous feline—Gribbin also delves into Schrödinger's fascination with Eastern philosophy and the other distinctive traits that differentiated him from his peers and made him who he was. Written in a personable and accessible style that minimizes jargon and doesn't require a degree in physics, *Simply Schrödinger* is a fascinating introduction to one of the giants of the 20th century, who blazed his own trail in science and in life.

*Darwin* - Michael White 1995

An account organized in alternating biographical and scientific chapters explains the influences that shaped Charles Darwin's life and examines his legacy to science and culture

*Isaac Newton* - Michael White 1999-04-06

Unknown to all but a few, Newton was a practicing alchemist who dabbled with the occult, a tortured, obsessive character who searched for an understanding of the universe by whatever means possible. Sympathetic yet balanced, Michael White's *Isaac Newton* offers a revelatory picture of Newton as a genius who stood at the point in history where magic ended and science began.

*Stephen Hawking* - Michael White 1992

A Gripping Account Of A Physicist Whose Speculations Could Prove As Revolutionary As Those Of Albert Einstein... It Can Be Consulted As A Clear And Authoritative Guide Through Three Decades Of Hawking's Central Contributions To Cosmology. - Bernard Dixon In *The New Statesman & Society* Excellent... From

The Opening Pages, Which Relate The Occasion When Shirley Maclaine Sought An Audience With Her Hero In A Cambridge Restaurant, To The Final Chapter On Hollywood, Fame And Fortune , The Book Is Well-Nigh Unputdownable... [It] Ought To Be Read Alongside A Brief History Of Time As A Kind Of Explanatory Supplement. - Heather Cooper In The Times Educational Supplement Fascinating... What Makes This Book So Rewarding Is The Way That The Authors Have Blended Their Account Of Hawking S Science With That Of His Life, Giving A Picture Of A Remarkable Scientist As A Remarkable Person. - Tony Osman In The Spectator It S Compulsive Reading, Maybe Because Hawking Towers Above It All, A Complex And Fascinating Character Who Remains Strangely Elusive: Boyish Yet Indomitable, Stubborn Yet Charming, A Private Man Revelling In Fame. - Clare Francis In The Sunday Express [Their Book] Conveys How Scientific Research Is Not Just A Dry

Intellectual Pursuit But An Adventure Full Of Joy, Despair And Humour, And Fraught With The Sort Of Inter-Personal Problems And Rivalries Which Mark All Human Endeavours. - Bernard Carr In The Independent On Sunday Few Scientists Become Legends In Their Own Lifetime. Stephen Hawking Is One. It Is Good To Have This Well-Documented And Immensely Readable Biography To Remind Us That The Media-Hyped Mute Genius In The Wheelchair Is In Fact A Sensitive, Humorous, Ambitious And Occasionally Wilful Human Being. - Paul Davies In The Times Higher Education Supplement Machiavelli - Michael White 2004 'Machiavellian: a person who adopts the principles recommended, or supposed to have been recommended, by Machiavelli in his treatise on statecraft; a person who practises expediency in preference to morality; an intriguer or schemer. Usu. derogatory.' In this new biography of the Florentine political theorist and statesman, Michael White goes beyond our

preconceptions to draw an objective picture of the author of *The Prince* and *The Art of War*. He does so by placing Machiavelli's remarkable life in the context of the Renaissance and its luminaries, such as the Borgias and Leonardo da Vinci.

The Pope and the Heretic - Michael White 2006

Giordano Bruno (1548-1600) was a mystic, philosopher and scientist whose ideas were decades ahead of their time. A proponent of a unificatory vision of science, he was both a champion of the occult as Newton would be after him, and a torch-bearer for the sort of holistic dreams that Leonardo had cherished before him. As such he is perfect material for the third in

Michael White's loose trilogy of science biographies - after Newton, the last sorcerer, and Leonardo, the first scientist, we have Bruno, science's first martyr. *THE POPE AND THE HERETIC* re-creates not just the vibrancy of intellectual life at the height of the Renaissance but also the horrific cost of pursuing ideas which ran counter to the orthodoxy of the Catholic Church. After almost eight years' imprisonment and torture at the hands of the Inquisition, Bruno was burned at the stake for his beliefs - or rather, his refusal to accept that intellectual investigation was limited by the dictates of Rome. His life and martyrdom are the subjects of this fascinating book.