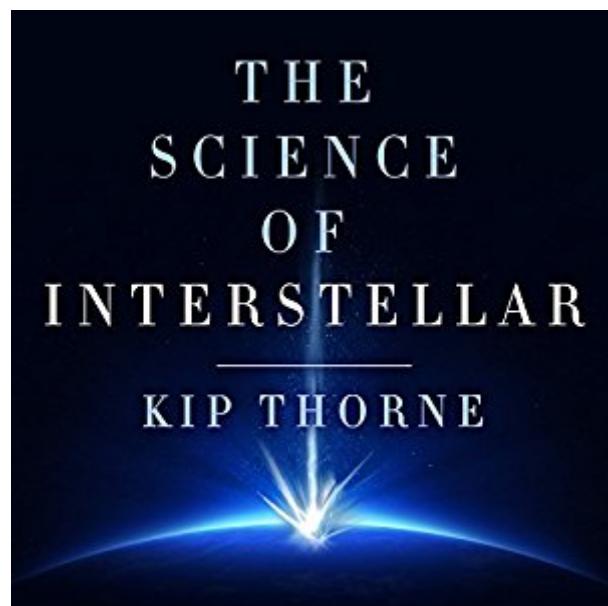


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The Science Of Interstellar



Synopsis

Interstellar, from acclaimed filmmaker Christopher Nolan, takes us on a fantastic voyage far beyond our solar system. Yet in *The Science of Interstellar*, Kip Thorne, the physicist who assisted Nolan on the scientific aspects of *Interstellar*, shows us that the movie's jaw-dropping events and stunning, never-before-attempted visuals are grounded in real science. Thorne shares his experiences working as the science adviser on the film and then moves on to the science itself. In chapters on wormholes, black holes, interstellar travel, and much more, Thorne's scientific insights-many of them triggered during the actual scripting and shooting of *Interstellar* - describe the physical laws that govern our universe and the truly astounding phenomena that those laws make possible.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this book, Dr. Thorne painstakingly explains what are the well-established science and what are the speculations behind the movie *Interstellar*. The movie is very long, and contains a lot of things --- and in places it was a little bit puzzling. This book takes us back to the movie, and explains to us the many aspects of science that this movie touched on, including: the biology and geophysics behind the dooms-day scenario at the beginning of the movie, the astrophysics and gravitational physics of black holes, the science of planets, and the (very wild) scientific speculations on wormholes and quantum gravity. I watched the movie together with a group of physicists and astronomers; afterwards, we had a lively debate about whether many details in the movie was really plausible, as Dr. Thorne had promised to us previously. After reading this book, I can see that Dr. Thorne had (of course!) realized most of the problems that we were debating. In places when astrophysics or

planetary science were involved, Dr. Thorne provided the (sometimes very unlikely but nevertheless possible) scenarios that our difficulties might be resolved. In places involving speculations in fundamental gravitational and quantum physics, Dr. Thorne provided motivations from the frontiers of theoretical physics. It was great fun to read these details. Finally, this book reveals the untold story in the movie: it all started from the detection of gravitational waves!!!

The best thing about this movie, as far as I'm concerned, is that it was designed from the beginning to treat some of the most interesting effects of general relativity in an accurate manner, and to make these counterintuitive effects central to a compelling human story. That story may be unrealistic in many ways, as most interesting stories are, but everything that occurs in the movie is consistent with the laws of physics as far as we know them (the material at the end delves into very speculative issues, but it does so in ways that are inspired by serious work in quantum gravity). The fact that the main features of the movie are scientifically realistic could come as quite a surprise to many viewers, and this book gives them the opportunity to take the next steps toward understanding this surprising and incredibly beautiful science.

"The Science of Interstellar" is a great book that serves as an insightful companion to the film. The movie is very entertaining, and it left me curious to find out more about some of the scientific aspects. The movie was marketed as being based on "real science" - after watching the film, it's clear that it is not that simple. Some of the film (particularly the latter part of it) hinges on theories that have not been proven by any means; nor have they been disproven, so in some sense the film may be accurate to what some of our "best guesses" are when it comes to current science. Kip Thorne, whose work on theoretical physics is featured in the film, authors this book. He elaborates on the science seen in the movie, and aims to increase the audience's understanding of the theories within. It's a well-written text that does a good job explaining things to an average reader. He includes a number of charts, diagrams, and illustrations which definitely helped me to understand some of the more difficult concepts. I look forward to seeing the film again now that I have read the book; I think it will certainly allow my appreciation for the movie to grow. Some examples of what is discussed in the book:- The physical laws of our universe- The physics of wormholes and black holes- Gravity & time dilation- Details of the spacecraft Endurance- Blight, food/oxygen shortage on Earth- The equations on the chalkboard- much more, including spoilers. For more reviews of Film & TV related books, visit [MovieArtBook\(dot\)com](http://MovieArtBook(dot)com)** Note: If you want to learn more about the making of the movie, I also recommend this book: *Interstellar*:

Beyond Time and Space

I am by no means an expert in the field; my rudimentary understanding of physics comes from several college courses and books/articles that I've read about astronomy, cosmology, and space exploration, so believe me when I say, Kip has written this book so that everyone can understand the science behind Interstellar. This was a great book and breaks down pretty much every major plot point in the movie. Kip makes it a point that all the science in the movie falls under three categories: Truth, Possibility, and Speculation/We don't know. Kip also explains the liberties that Christopher Nolan takes as a director and then either supports his direction with science or explains why Chris decided, for that plot point, to ignore the science. So in the end, you get a comprehensive explanation about what happens in the movie and what would happen in real life. The book is filled with pictures and drawings to explain the subject matter and all in all is a great book to complement the movie. If you're interested in any of the science in the movie, I'd highly suggest reading this book.

This is a very accessible and understandable guide to the scientific theories and knowledge underlying the movie, Interstellar. It is very well written. Kip Thorne does an excellent job of explaining the science in language and with diagrams that enable the uninitiated -- those unfamiliar with quantum physics and the like -- to easily comprehend. I highly recommend this book. I further recommend seeing the movie, then reading this book, then seeing the movie again! Tangential, I know, but I suggest seeing the film in IMAX (70mm film) -- AWESOME!

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