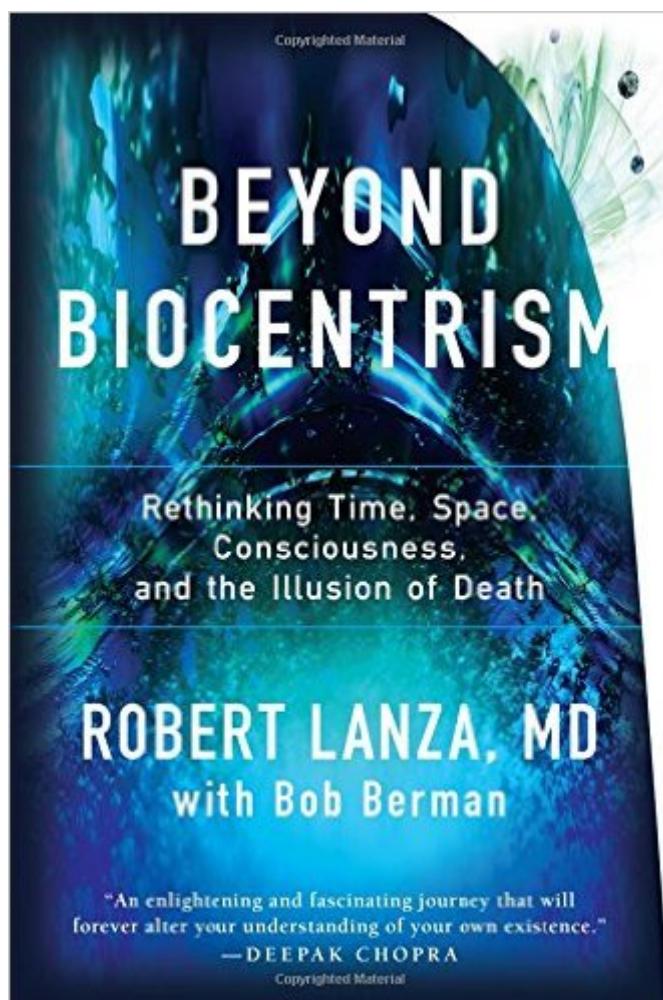


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Beyond Biocentrism: Rethinking Time, Space, Consciousness, And The Illusion Of Death



Synopsis

Biocentrism shocked the world with a radical rethinking of the nature of reality. But that was just the beginning. In *Beyond Biocentrism*, acclaimed biologist Robert Lanza, one of TIME Magazine's "100 Most Influential People in 2014," and leading astronomer Bob Berman, take the reader on an intellectual thrill-ride as they re-examine everything we thought we knew about life, death, the universe, and the nature of reality itself. The first step is acknowledging that our existing model of reality is looking increasingly creaky in the face of recent scientific discoveries. Science tells us with some precision that the universe is 26.8 percent dark matter, 68.3 percent dark energy, and only 4.9 percent ordinary matter, but must confess that it doesn't really know what dark matter is and knows even less about dark energy. Science is increasingly pointing toward an infinite universe but has no ability to explain what that really means. Concepts such as time, space, and even causality are increasingly being demonstrated as meaningless. All of science is based on information passing through our consciousness but science hasn't the foggiest idea what consciousness is, and it can't explain the linkage between subatomic states and observation by conscious observers. Science describes life as a random occurrence in a dead universe but has no real understanding of how life began or why the universe appears to be exquisitely designed for the emergence of life. The biocentrism theory isn't a rejection of science. Quite the opposite. Biocentrism challenges us to fully accept the implications of the latest scientific findings in fields ranging from plant biology and cosmology to quantum entanglement and consciousness. By listening to what the science is telling us, it becomes increasingly clear that life and consciousness are fundamental to any true understanding of the universe. This forces a fundamental rethinking of everything we thought we knew about life, death, and our place in the universe.

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Customer Reviews

The first thing I must say about this book is that there are not enough stars to describe what a good read this book truly is. Robert Lanza, MD teamed up with Bob Berman (astrophysicist) to write this wonderful 200 page book that for me -- finally put it all together. I studied physics and can say for myself that I have a mind of scientist that is (over)loaded with logic. But I am also a yoga teacher and since my father's death nearly 10 years ago, I have been actively looking for answers about death, immortality and nature of space and time. I read so many books about the topic, I lost count. That was until I came across this book. Authors finally put it all together for me that both my scientific, logical mind and my spiritual mind could put it all together in a manner that it finally all made sense. One of the 'a-ha" moments was towards the end of the book when author Lanza acknowledges the fact that plants have consciousness. I was reading that part of the book on the train on my way from work and at one moment, I said out loud (without realizing it) - "Oh my God!" An older gentlemen, a professional man, sitting in a fine, tailored suit next to my seat, was startled and he replied: "Did you miss your train exit? Was I in a way?". I just looked at him and smiled and my response was simply:" Oh, no. It is just that I learned from this book that plants have consciousness! Can you believe it? And there is a proof!".. He was so kind, he looked at me and said after a longer pause replied: "Well, it does kind of make sense - the fact that plants have consciousness...." What can I say - I repeated the same story to my yoga students I was teaching that same night. The fact is that this book is so rich with references to ancient philosophical books, logic from ancient Greece and how all of that information is relevant today. Authors provide scientific insight on classical physics (Newton) to modern physics (quantum mechanics and relativity). For me personally, this book, every single page of it was food for my soul. Not to mention that I was delighted to learn (and accept) the premise that authors have that, after all, we are all immortal. Some of the very fortunate people on earth experience enlightenment, and this book will show every reader that there is a potential in each and every one of us to experience it. This book opened my eyes to possibilities that no one has ever presented in such a concise and beautiful way before. There is one portion of the book where authors discuss how human beings are used to observing and exploring universe by "looking" at the skies. This book missed it by a couple of months, since it's been announced a few months back that scientists in New Mexico, for the first

time, "heard" creation of the black hole. This was just an idea that Einstein had nearly 50 years ago that the events in the universe can be heard and not just seen and it was only recently that scientists could prove that events in the universe can indeed be heard by human beings. Nevertheless, this book is priceless and I am keeping it as a reference in my library. It has underlining all over the place and I just cannot stop talking about it to everyone I know. Another wonderful thing that must be mentioned is that one author (Lanza) relies strictly on science and logic, while the other co-author (Berman) believes in a "gut" feeling in spite of the fact that he received a training as a scientist. Perhaps the part of the reason is the fact that for the period of three weeks, Mr. Berman experienced enlightenment himself. I must quote one part of the book, where Mr. Berman says: "We trust our instincts. We need no textbook to teach us to love, or to recognize danger, or to be swept into a joy by a beautiful garden. Yet when it comes to grasping the nature of existence, we fumble and stumble through insensate theories, our eyes glazed over as we hear about string theory's extra dimensions". My personal struggle my entire life has been to reconcile my scientific mind with my deep sense of intuition. For a long time I denied myself my intuition because my rational mind always felt that there has to be a rational "proof" first before I make up my mind and fully accept my gut feeling. This book has finally thought me a lesson that I will allow my intuition to lead me first, I will trust it unconditionally and rationality will follow in its own time and show itself when it is ready. For that lesson I am so thankful to both of these authors. They are my personal heroes.

If the last time you picked up a book on physics you read about string theory, you will be surprised that the physics world has moved on. Biocentrism is a new focus. I never took physics - which my husband reminds me when I hang up his pants incorrectly (he hangs them up now) - but am fascinated by the deep metaphysical questions as to clues to how we are supposed to live our life. What matters? What are the laws governing the universe, and what are their implications for us? This book can be a page-turner if you are interested in those topics. I understood about 80% of it on a first read. It's narrated in an amusing, let-me-let-you-in-on-the-latest-discoveries-and-what-they-could-mean style. One critic called the style infectious, and that's an apt description. Okay, so my take-aways from the book:^{*} there is no time - things happen simultaneously in experiments when separated^{*} there is no space - simultaneity points to no separation^{*} what we perceive is really in our consciousness^{*} there is no death - as our consciousness is continuous^{*} the universe is infinite - shows no signs of warping^{*} randomness is overrated - those million monkeys who were supposed to be able to type

Shakespeare's complete works if given enough time? (I always doubted that.) Those monkeys are more apt to throw the keyboard around and use it as a toilet. Given trillions of years and many monkeys, they'd be lucky to come up with a sentence.* the Big Bang is probably not causal - the odds of the moon acting the way it does which keeps our temperature livable is a rarity. There are too many coincidences which produced life. The Big Bang can't explain life.* consciousness may be one - we may be connected to our environment and universe, so best to treat our environment well. I enjoyed the author's discussion of how these topics have evolved over time, beginning with the Greeks. Interesting insights on how Judeo-Christian faiths include time into their theology as in do these good things and you will get to heaven. Of course, Jesus may have had unique insight on the universe when you look at some of his least understood sayings: the kingdom of heaven is within you, the kingdom of heaven is at hand, the kingdom of heaven is not lo here or lo there. Are these pointing to realities that reality isn't out there, and it's non-local? It's within us? Then there's: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven, and all these things shall be added unto you." How about this quote by Jesus pointing to immediacy and the illusion of time? "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." This book doesn't discuss these sayings, but it caused me to think of them. Here are some quotes from the book I found thought-worthy:*

We find ourselves to be conscious in a matrix we call the universe.* Far less than one-trillionth of 1 percent of the cosmos lies within view of our telescopes.* ... we need to know who experiences what, where these adventures take place, and how our lives unfold.* Particles and photons - matter and energy - apparently transmit knowledge across the entire universe instantly. Light's travel time is no longer the limit.* This is bizarre. Yet these results happen every time, without fail. They're telling us that an observer's mind determines physical behavior of external objects. Could it get any weirder?* "In classical physics, the past is assumed to exist as a definite series of events, but according to quantum physics, the past, like the future is indefinite and exists only as a spectrum of possibilities."

Stephen Hawking and Leonard Mlodinow* Non-local correlation - What it really means is that there is an underlying reality that connects all the universe's contents.* Experiment after experiment continues to suggest that we - consciousness, the mind - create space and time, not the other way around....Suffusing the cosmos is the realm of mind, whose observations cause objects to materialize, to assume one property or another, or to jump from one position to another without passing through any intervening space.* But biocentrism makes sense of it all for the first time, because the mind is not secondary to a material universe. Rather, it is one with it.* our senses are architecturally constructed to perceive what's useful in our everyday lives. What purpose would be

served by perceiving the blinding ultra-energy that permeates every crevice of reality?* We can always count things. No problem there. But when it comes to assessing POSSIBILITIES - on Earth or off it - we monkeys haven't got a chance.* Randomness is not a tenable hypothesis.* Direction matters because unlike all the other major moons of the solar system, ours is the only one that does orbit around its planet's equator....This is an extremely unlikely universe.* The Sun - central to life - would not exist if any of the several of the universe's basic physical constants were even a paltry 1 percent different from their actual values. Earth has been hit by celestial objects, but not large enough to destroy it. It would have been a very different story if massive Jupiter didn't exist, gravitationally deflecting or altering the orbits of most incoming hazards.* Certainly no single mental image can adequately capture BEING....But a good start is simply to see conscious experience as a swirl of information, while abandoning the notion that anything is truly external.Loved this book - very provocative in a good way and quite readable even for folks who don't understand physics well enough to hang up a pair of pants correctly.

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