



PRESS RELEASE



A Beautiful Question **Finding Nature's Deep Design**

By Frank Wilczek

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**How do we understand the deep nature of perspective and symmetry in the cosmos?
Does the world embody beautiful ideas?
Is the world in fact a work of art?**

In a scientific tour de force, Nobel prize-winning physicist Frank Wilczek controversially argues that beauty is at the heart of the logic of the universe, a principle that had guided his pioneering work in quantum physics.

As this book demonstrates, this quest has also guided the work of all scientific pursuit in the western world, from Pythagoras and Plato to Galileo and Newton, Maxwell and Einstein. Indeed, Wilczek shows us just how deeply intertwined our ideas about beauty and art are with our scientific understanding of the cosmos. Gorgeously illustrated, **A Beautiful Question** is the culmination of Wilczek's life work, a masterwork that combines the age-old quest for beauty with the age-old quest for truth.

A Beautiful Question is my attempt to see things whole. Here I've returned to the kinds of 'naïve' questions that I had as a teenager: What is reality? What am I? I've brought our deepest knowledge of how the physical world works to bear, naturally. That has been my primary focus for many years. But I've also realized that perception, art and philosophy are central to the discussion, and that the history of ideas has a lot to teach us.

For a century, science has invalidated 'soft' questions about truth, beauty, and transcendence. It took considerable courage therefore for Frank Wilczek to declare that such questions are within the framework of 'hard' science. Anyone who wants to see how science and transcendence can be compatible must read this book.. —Deepak Chopra, M.D.

This book helps me see how one of the world's leading thinkers thinks... In Wilczek's mind, there is no clear separation between physics, art, poetry, and music. Why do physicists call their theories beautiful? Immerse yourself in this book, wallow in it, sit back and relax as you wander through it, and you'll soon understand. —Richard Muller, author of Physics for Future Presidents

BIOGRAPHY: Frank Wilczek won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2004 for work he did as a graduate student at Princeton University, when he was 21 years old. He is the Herman Feshbach Professor of Physics at MIT.

In high demand worldwide as a lecturer, he is a regular contributor to *Nature* and *Physics Today*, and his work has been anthologized in the *Norton Anthology of Light Verse* and twice in *Best American Science Writing* (2003, 2005). He is the author of *Longing for the Harmonies* and *The Lightness of Being*.

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