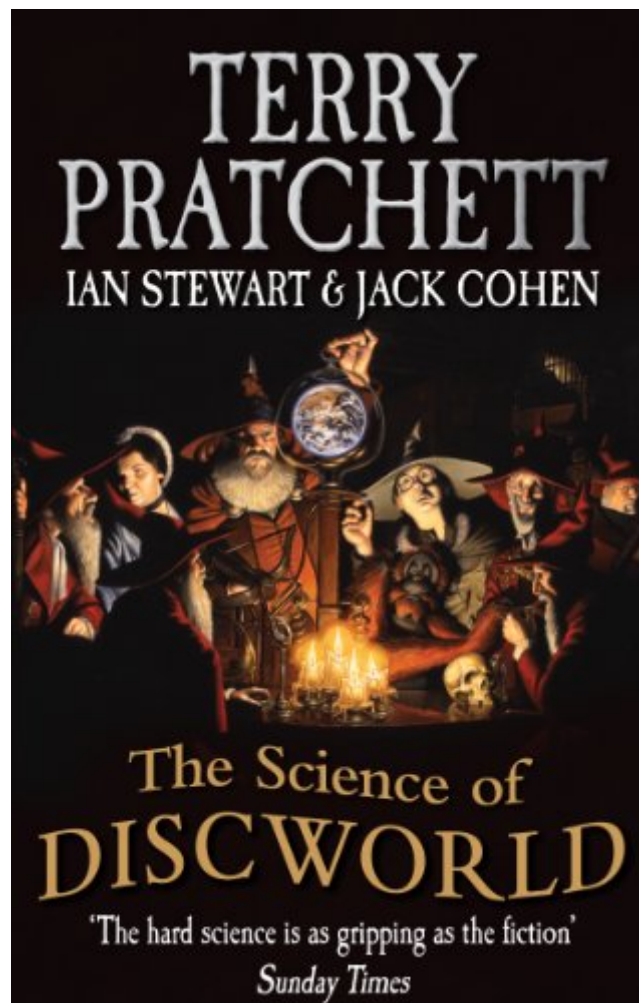




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# The Science Of Discworld (The Science Of Discworld Series Book 1)



## Synopsis

The fantastic first book in the Sunday Times bestselling Science of Discworld series. When a wizardly experiment goes adrift, the wizards of Unseen University find themselves with a pocket universe on their hands: Roundworld, where neither magic nor common sense seems to stand a chance against logic. The Universe, of course, is our own. And Roundworld is Earth. As the wizards watch their accidental creation grow, we follow the story of our universe from the primal singularity of the Big Bang to the internet and beyond. Through this original Terry Pratchett story (with intervening chapters from Cohen and Stewart) we discover how puny and insignificant individual lives are against a cosmic backdrop of creation and disaster. Yet, paradoxically, we see how the richness of a universe based on rules, has led to a complex world and at least one species that tried to get a grip of what was going on. Terry Pratchett is the acclaimed creator of the global bestselling Discworld series, the first of which, *The Colour of Magic*, was published in 1983. *Raising Steam* is his fortieth Discworld novel. His books have been widely adapted for stage and screen, and he is the winner of multiple prizes, including the Carnegie Medal, as well as being awarded a knighthood for services to literature. After falling out with his keyboard he now talks to his computer.

Occasionally, these days, it answers back. [@terryandrob](http://www.terrypratchett.co.uk) Professor Ian Stewart is the author of many popular science books. He is the mathematics consultant for *New Scientist* and a Professor of Mathematics at the University of Warwick. He was awarded the Michael Faraday Prize for furthering the public understanding of science, and in 2001 became a Fellow of the Royal Society. Dr Jack Cohen is an internationally-known reproductive biologist, and lives in Newent, Gloucestershire. Jack has a laboratory in his kitchen, helps couples get pregnant by referring them to colleagues, invents biologically realistic aliens for science fiction writers and, in his spare time, throws boomerangs. Jack, who has more letters to his name than can be repeated here, writes, lectures, talks and campaigns to promote public awareness of science, particularly biology. He is mostly retired.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Although Terry Pratchett (may he rest in peace) wrote his Discworld series as "Fantasy," it was always firmly grounded in real science and history--from which it promptly took off into the stratosphere of the author's spectacular imagination. This is less a novel (though alternate chapters tell a story) than a science text. In fact, I would love to have this book (updated from 1999), and its companions (Science of Discworld II, III and IV) used as junior high science texts all over the country! The chapters (written by Pratchett) that tell a story give perfect context for the chapters that provide an entertaining dose of "hard science" (attributed to Pratchett, Ian Stewart and Jack Cohen), leading to questions to be asked in the next story-chapter. The explanations are understandable, yet thorough--the story is funny, surprising, and all around delightful! Please read this book--better yet, please read this book to the nearest 7th-grader.

A hilarious romp into science and natural philosophy as Sir Terry sits us down with the staff of Unseen University in order to learn how the world works. On par with Douglas Adams at his finest. The Science of Diskworld books are a sort of side project from the regular Diskworld novels. They seek to introduce the youngish reader to principles of the Sciences and similar by comparing them with Pratchetts Diskworld. It's great fun. I think he ended up writing 4 or 5 of these.

Five stars? I lied, but it's Terry Pratchett, so what can I say? This book is WAY over my head. Ian Stewart, and Jack Cohen are marvelous writers who could make any rock fascinating. The problems are all my own. The science goes in one ear and out the other. I wish for more delightful

Discworld character development and action, because I want to escape into Discworld. In this book the escapes are limited, and the science is long. However, if you have more brain power than I do, you will LOVE this book. The science is amazing, and very different from what I learned in high school! Here's a sample, "... the point is that most of the atoms from which you are made must have come into being inside a star. As Jonie Mitchell sang at Woodstock, 'We are Stardust.' Scientist like quoting this line, because it sounds as though they were young once."

I read it for the Terry Pratchett parts and plowed through everything else since it had some interest to me. Even with being interested it was a long read. I was surprised the co-authors could keep on going for so long. What was the editor doing when this book was written? If you're a Terry Pratchett fan you have three more books to go through to get to the end of his story.

You can't go wrong with Terry Pratchett, he's great!! With that being said, when the word "science" is in his titles, he REALLY means it. All the even numbered chapters are heavy-duty science. I skim through those chapters. The odd numbered chapters are the actual story. Bottom line, I'm reading #2 of the series, "The Globe - The Science of Discworld II", and looking forward to #3 which I've already purchased, "Darwin's Watch - The Science of Discworld III".

This is not a book for the faint hearted. First of all, it's about the science of this world. Secondly, you have to pay attention while you're reading. Half of this book is a lighthearted romp with Rincewind and the other wizards at UU as they explore the unmagical world they've created, and half of the book is a rigorous look at the physics that govern our universe. It's rewarding, but at the same time, it should be taken in small bites so it can be savored. I would recommend it for the science geek. If you enjoy Scientific American, you will enjoy this book.

As one of the authors, I confess bias. This was our first attempt, and because we hadn't really got our hands on the technique, it's not as free-flowing as II: The Globe or III: Darwin's Watch. As we didn't expect further volumes, it has too many chapters, too many subjects, and is a bit obtuse - nevertheless, worth reading.... esp the second edition!

Get this: a science book and a novel rolled into one! The novel involves Sir Terry's beloved Wizards of Unseen University who have accidentally created a universe. Interspersed with the events of the novel are explanations of scientific phenomena (in OUR universe) that are comprehensible to

average non-scientists like me. And the best part? This is the first of four "Science of Discworld" novels.

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TERRY PRATCHETT: SERIES READING ORDER: MY READING CHECKLIST: DISCWORLD SERIES, THE SCIENCE OF DISCWORLD SERIES, TERRY PRATCHETTâ€™S OTHER BOOKS BASED ON DISCWORLD The Science Of Discworld (The Science of Discworld Series Book 1) The Science of Discworld IV: Judgement Day (The Science of Discworld Series Book 4) Nanny Ogg's Cookbook: A Useful and Improving Almanack of Information Including Astonishing Recipes from Terry Pratchett's Discworld (Discworld Series) The Shepherd's Crown (Tiffany Aching Series, Book 5)(Discworld series) The Science of Discworld IV The Science of Discworld IV: Judgement Day The Science of Discworld II: The Globe Eric (Discworld Series) Terry Pratchett's Guards! Guards! The Play (Discworld Series) GURPS Discworld Also (Gurps Series: Generic Universal Roleplaying System) Stephen King Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: The Dark Tower series, Shining series, Talisman series, The Green Mile series, stand-alone novels, ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 30) W.E.B. Griffin Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Presidential Agent series, Badge of Honor series, The Corps series, Honor Bound series, Brotherhood ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 14) Dale Brown Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Patrick McLanahan series, Acts of War series, Independent series, Dreamland series (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 24) J.A. Jance Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: J.P. Beaumont series, Joana Brady Mysteries series, Ali Reynolds series, Walker Family series (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 13) Going Postal (Discworld Book 33) The Wee Free Men (Discworld Book 30) The Wee Free Men: Discworld Childrens, Book 2 Wintersmith: Discworld Childrens, Book 4 The Fifth Elephant: Discworld #24

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