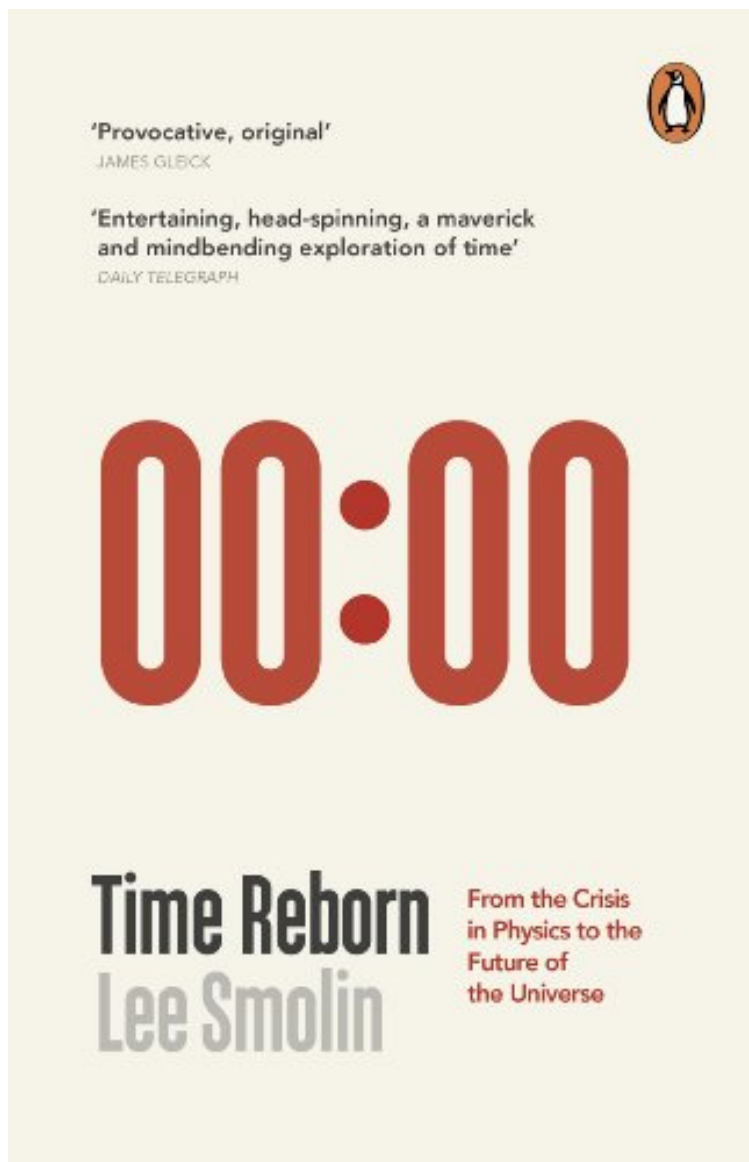


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# Time Reborn: From the Crisis in Physics to the Future of the Universe



*Par Lee Smolin*  
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## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurIn Time Reborn, Lee Smolin, one of our foremost physicists and thinkers offers a radical new view of the nature of time and the cosmosNothing seems more real than time passing. We experience life itself as a succession of moments. Yet throughout history, the idea that time is an illusion has been a religious and philosophical commonplace. We identify certain truths as 'eternal' constants, from moral principles to the laws of mathematics and nature: these are laws that exist not inside time, but outside it. From Newton and Einstein to today's string theorists and quantum physicists, the widest consensus is that

the universe is governed by absolute, timeless laws. In *Time Reborn*, Lee Smolin argues that this denial of time is holding back both physics, and our understanding of the universe. We need a major revolution in scientific thought: one that embraces the reality of time and places it at the centre of our thinking.  $E = mc^2$  may equal  $mc^2$  now, but that wasn't always the case. Similarly, as our understanding of the universe develops, Newton's fundamental laws might not remain so fundamental. Time, Smolin concludes, is not an illusion: it is the best clue we have to fundamental reality. *Time Reborn* explains how the true nature of time impacts on us, our world, and our universe. "The strongest dose of clarity in written form to have come along in decades. The implications go far beyond physics, to economics, politics, and personal philosophy. *Time Reborn* places reality above theory in stronger and clearer terms than ever before, and the result is a path to better theory and potentially to a better society as well. Will no doubt be remembered as one of the essential books of the 21st century" Jaron Lanier [Praise for Lee Smolin's *The Trouble With Physics*]: "The best book about contemporary science written for the layman that I have ever read . . . Read this book. Twice" *Sunday Times* "Unusually broad and deep . . . his critical judgments are exceptionally penetrating" Roger Penrose "Brave, uniquely well-informed . . . does a tremendous job" *Mail on Sunday* Lee Smolin is a theoretical physicist who has made important contributions to the search for quantum gravity. Born in New York City, he was educated at Hampshire College and Harvard University. Since 2001 he is a founding faculty member at Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics. His three earlier books explore philosophical issues raised by contemporary physics and cosmology. They are *Life of the Cosmos* (1997), *Three Roads to Quantum Gravity* (2001) and *The Trouble with Physics* (2006). He lives in Toronto. *Revue de presse* "[Smolin's] book, a mix of science, philosophy and science fiction, is at once entertaining, thought-provoking, fabulously ambitious and fabulously speculative." *The New York Times* "Provocative, original, and unsettling." *The New York Times* "Brilliant" Smolin gives what is, for me, the best analysis of the nature of time from a physics viewpoint in a popular science book I have ever seen." *Popular Science* "Smolin provides a much-needed dose of clarity about time, with implications that go far beyond physics to economics, politics, and personal philosophy. An essential book for physicists and non-physicists alike, *Time Reborn* offers a path to better theory and potentially to a better society." Jaron Lanier, author of *You Are Not a Gadget* and *The Fate of Power and the Future of Dignity* "Applying his deep mastery of cosmology, quantum mechanics, general relativity and all the diverse attempts at quantum gravity, in *Time Reborn* Lee Smolin weaves a convincing and entirely new view of reality. He shows us how contemporary physics eliminates time and argues persuasively that any adequate cosmology rests on making time and now fundamental." Stuart Kauffman, University of Vermont, author of *At Home in the Universe* "Smolin is an excellent writer, a creative thinker and is ecumenical in the way he covers so many different branches of thought. Even as I mentally argued with this book, I kept on ploughing through to see how Smolin dealt with the objections. I would love to sit down with him over a drink and debate the ins and outs of his theory. And that is how this book should be read: as an account that makes you ask questions." *Nature* "An entertaining, head-spinning and, yes, timely blend of philosophy, science, and speculation to put the Now back into physics." *The Telegraph* "An energetic case for a paradigm shift that could produce mind-boggling changes in the way we experience our world." *Publishers Weekly* "A thoughtful, complex re-evaluation of the role of time in the universe A flood of ideas from an imaginative thinker." *Kirkus* "With rare conceptual daring, Smolin beckons toward a new perspective for doing cosmological theory A thrilling intellectual ride!" *Booklist* (starred review)