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"After Contact focuses on the psychological, sociological, political, and cultural aspects of the search for extraterrestrial intelligence. It provides a conceptual framework for organizing hypotheses about extraterrestrial life forms and civilizations, and explores likely human reactions to different search outcomes. After Contact establishes that the behavioral and social sciences are as important to the search as are the physical and biological sciences that have always played an integral role in SETI. Chapters include: The Enormous Challenge, Listening, False Alarms, Living Systems, Organisms, Societies, Supranational Systems, First Impressions, Initial Impact, Building Relationships, The Rocky Road to Utopia, and Betting With The Optimists. This book is intended to be serious psychology but also fun to read!"

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From the Book Cover

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Frank Drake, SETI Institute, Mountain View, California

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"This is a SETI book unlike any other. It quickly moves beyond the usual technical discussions of search methods to explore the nature of extraterrestrial life forms and human reactions to the discovery of extraterrestrial civilizations, based on the fields of psychology, sociology, anthropology, and political science. A very timely volume, considering the recent discoveries of possible Martian fossils and planetary systems around other stars."

Steven J. Dick, U.S. Naval Observatory, Washington, D.C.

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