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**Navigation**

[UFOs](#)
[Paranormal](#)
[People](#)
[Places](#)
[Area 51](#)
[Random](#)
[Top 100](#)
[Catalog](#)
[What's New](#)

Search...

...for this word in:

Page Titles
Page Contents
Book Title/Author

[Help](#)**Log-In Here**

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Parallel Universes

The Search For Other Worlds

By [Fred Wolf](#)Our Price: **\$12.00**Our Item Code: **parallel**Postage Code: **book1**

351 Pages, Trade Paperback

Cover Size: 6 x 9 inches

Simon & Schuster

Related listings: [Weird Physics](#)

Date: 1988 ISBN: 0-671-69601-7

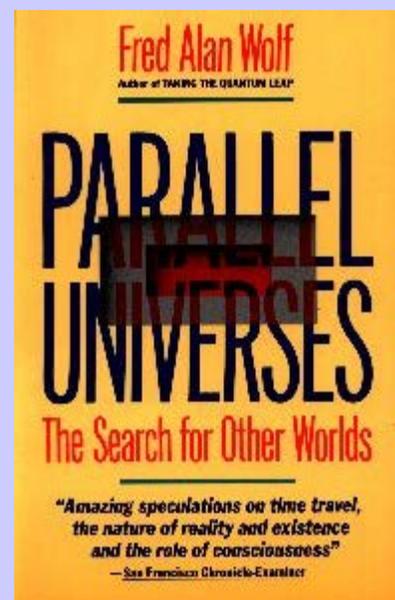
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Our Review

Opinion of the webmaster, subject to debate

This is similar in some ways to [The Holographic Universe](#) and [The Dancing Wu Li Masters](#) in that it uses current quantum theory to derive some interesting possibilities regarding parallel universes. It is a bit more accessible for the layman, however. While not a technical book, it manages to expose the reader to a number of the oddities of quantum physics quite painlessly. Wolf touches on the UFO phenomenon, as well as ESP and ghosts with a fine sense of humor. -- *Glenn Campbell*

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Information from the Publisher

Always supportive

An excerpt from *Parallel Universes*:

There is a theory which states that if ever anyone discovers exactly what the Universe is for and why it is here, it will instantly disappear and be replaced by something even more bizarre and inexplicable.

There is another which states that it has already happened

Douglas Adams - *The Restaurant at the End of the Universe*

No experiences, ordinary, everyday, usual or unusual, whether impressions, ideas, dreams, visions or memories, strange, bizarre, familiar, weird, psychotic, or sane, are objective facts.

R.D. Lang

None who has gazed into a full-length mirror has not at some time thought about the right-for-left twisted world that exists on the other side of the looking glass. Indeed Lewis Carroll's Alice has captured our imagination through her magical adventure in a through-the-looking-glass parallel universe consisting of talking playing cards, walruses, ships, and sealing wax. In our imagination we believe that the parallel looking-glass world is as real as our own. Probably you have had the experience of holding up a mirror parallel to another mirror and gazing at the infinite number of images were somehow a vision of a truer but stranger reality ?

Parallel universes have existed in the fantasies of science-fiction writers probably ever since the genre began. Apparently science-fiction writers have a firm grasp of this rather startling idea. Yet when I try to explain scientifically just what a parallel universe is, I find myself stumbling over words. Perhaps the reason is that these universes which are "old hat" to science-fiction writers are rather new to physicists.

Numerous examples of parallel universes from science fiction come to mind. I remember one outstanding Star Trek episode. The Enterprise had encountered one of those space-warping ionized gas clouds that seem to exist "out there" while in the routine operation of "beaming up" Captain Kirk and some of his crew from a planet below. The ionized cloud interfered with the operation of the "transporter" and Captain Kirk and party found themselves on board a parallel Enterprise, where the remainder of the crew and the space-ship environment, while much the same as on the old Enterprise, were surprisingly different.

Mr. Spock, for example, had sprouted a black pointed beard and, while as logical as his counterpart on the other Enterprise, was amazingly evil. In fact, the whole ship that Kirk and party had come upon was as evil as the old Enterprise was good in their voyages through the final frontier. Meanwhile, on the "good" old Enterprise, an evil Kirk and crew had beamed aboard, and because of their abhorrent behavior and "good" Mr. Spock quickly had them locked up in the "brig".

Both Spocks soon figured out what the trouble was. The Enterprise, because of the ionized gas storm, had encountered a parallel universe where a duplicate of the original Enterprise and crew existed. In fact the duplication was nearly exact in every regard with the exception of some minor details like what was good and what was evil. Neither universe would have even suspected the other's existence if the ion storm hadn't occurred and caused a rip in the spacetime fabric allowing the universes access to each other. However, the parallel Kirks had crossed over into the other's spaceships through the intersection or joining of the two universes. The "good" ship Enterprise had an "evil" Kirk locked up in its brig and the "evil" Enterprise found itself coping with a "good" Captain Kirk, who soon learned how to pretend he was evil while attempting to right some wrongs. And therein lay a good tale.

Paralleled or distorted duplication of what already exists is indeed an important feature of parallel universes according to the way some physicists view them. Accordingly, there are parallel yous and mes somehow existing in the same space and time that we live in but normally not seen or sensed by us. In these universes, choices and decisions are being made at the very instant you are choosing and deciding. Only the outcomes are different, leading to different but similar worlds.

From the Book Cover

"Amazing speculations on time travel, the nature of reality and existence and the role of consciousness"

--*San Francisco Chronicle-Examiner*

"A wild intellectual ride ...An enthralling read."

--*Publishers Weekly*

Is science fact stranger than science fiction? In an "outrageous ride along the frontiers of science" (*New Age Journal*), physicist Fred Alan Wolf explore the startling concept of parallel universes--worlds that resemble and perhaps even duplicate our own--and puts a refreshing and illuminating spin on the complex theories challenging our perceptions of the universe. Through such lively examples as a superspace theater and zero-time ghosts, Wolf deftly guides the reader through the paradoxes of today's physics to explore a realm of scientific speculation in which black holes are gateways of information between universes, and alter egos spring into existence at the flip of a coin.

Wolf explores a future when time travelers will make history-and alter the past-while testing Earth's first time machine; when lucid dreaming and schizophrenia may mark the overlap of parallel universes; when quantum computers may predict the stock market.

Table of Contents

[INTRODUCTION](#)

- Quantum Physics: Bringing in an Observer
- Relativity: Relationships--Weird and Wonderful
- Cosmology: A Search for the Beginning
- Psychology: Consciousness and Machine Intelligence
- Parallel Universes and Communication with the Future

PART ONE: WHAT ARE PARALLEL UNIVERSES?

CHAPTER 1: HOW QUANTUM PHYSICS PREDICTS THE EXISTENCE OF PARALLEL UNIVERSES

- The New Physics Had Strange Ideas

CHAPTER 2: THE PENULTIMATE EXPERIMENT: SHOOTING THROUGH DOUBLE SLITS

- The Mystery Persists
- The Wave Was Not Real
- Why Parallel Universes Were Invented

CHAPTER 3: RIDING THE WAVE THROUGH PARALLEL WORLDS

- A Dizzy Atom in an Infinity of Worlds
- The Quantum Magic Lantern Theater
- The Electron Exists in Parallel Universes

CHAPTER 4: A WAVE PASSES THROUGH COPENHAGEN

- Trouble in the New Physics
- The Observer Participates Whether She Wants to or Not

CHAPTER 5: THE MEANING OF A QUANTUM WAVE FUNCTION

- The Wave Was Invisible
- The Emperor's New Clothes: The Quantum Wave Function
- Does the Universe Quantum Jump?

PART TWO: A REAPPRAISAL: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE UNITY IN UNIVERSE?

CHAPTER 6: THE BUSINESS OF ISNESS

- Infinity, Infinity Everywhere and Not a Spot to Think
- The First Infinity: A Straight Line
- Infinity Number 2--It's All Done with Mirrors

CHAPTER 7: HOW THINGS THAT ARE DEPEND ON THINGS THAT AREN'T AND HOW WE AREN'T NORMALLY AWARE THAT ANYTHING IS ANY DIFFERENT

- Reflections in a Parallel Universe
- In-Betweenness or Room for one More Reflection

CHAPTER 8: SELF-REFERENCE: ISNESS AND AIN'TNESS

- It's a Complementary World After All
- An Example: A Coin in Four Universes

CHAPTER 9: LOOK UP IN THE AIR IT'S SUPERSPACE!

- Superspace Broadway Theater Style
- Uncertainty in Superspace
- What If Newton Was Right? Silly Superspace
- A Pattern of order in Superspace: Consciousness Emerging

CHAPTER 10: A MOUSE, A COIN, AND A QUANTUM CONSPIRACY

- A Conspiracy of Universes

PART THREE: INSIDE AND OUTSIDE: TIME BENDS AND SPACE WARPS

CHAPTER 11: RELATIVITY AND TIME AS A DIMENSION OF SPACE

- Primal Time
- The First Time I Saw Spacetime
- The Popular Dimension of Time
- How Time Can Be Viewed as the Fourth Dimension
- The Democratization of Space and Time
- A Relativistic Game of Catch
- What Does a Four-Dimensional Object Look Like?
- Time Is Space Is Time Is...

CHAPTER 12: REAL TIME, ZERO TIME, IMAGINARY TIME AND REAL SPACE, AND IMAGINARY SPACE

- Invariance in Geometry
- Invariance in Spacetime
- Imaginary Space
- A Change in Time
- Going Down Fifth Avenue in Spacetime
- An Ordinary Particle
- A Zero-Time Ghost
- An Imaginary Time Superman

CHAPTER 13: EINSTEIN'S PARALLEL UNIVERSE

- If Pythagoras Is Right, Spacetime Is Flat
- Visualizing a Curved Space
- Einstein's Curves
- Einstein Going Around the Bend
- Measuring Time Warps
- A Bend in Time Means a Parallel Universe

CHAPTER 14: BLACK HOLES: GATEWAYS TO PARALLEL UNIVERSES

- SpaceWarps
- How Space Curvature Creates a Black Hole
- What's a Black Hole?

CHAPTER 15: HOW BLACK HOLES PREDICTED PARALLEL UNIVERSES

- My Meeting with a Black Hole Map Maker
- What's Black and White and Dread All Over?

CHAPTER 16: AN IMAGINARY JOURNEY TO PARALLEL UNIVERSES THROUGH A BLACK HOLE

- Sending Tachyons to Do a Photon's Work
- How a Rotating Black Hole Is a Bridge to Many Universes
- An Infinity of Parallel Universes

PART FOUR: "IN THE BEGINNING THERE WAS ..."

- The First Inconsistency, Not Enough Time to Start the Universe
- Inflationary Models
- Inflation Is Not Enough
- Parallel Universes Solve Another Problem

CHAPTER 17: THE FIRST OBSERVER OF THE BIG BANG

- The Names of God
- A Cloud and the Observer Effect
- The Observer Disturbs and Creates
- The Grand Prix at the Beginning of Time
- Time at the Beginning of Time
- Space: Where No One Has Gone Before
- Black Holes: Another Way to a Parallel Universe
- The Scale of the Universe
-

CHAPTER 18: PROBLEMS IN EDEN

- Singularities Do Not Admit Laws of Physics in Their Domains
- In the Beginning There Was Uncertainty

CHAPTER 19: THE GROUND UPON WHICH THE UNIVERSE STOOD

- An Electron in an Atom and a Universe in a Universe of Universes
- The Universe at Time Zero: Energy or Location?

CHAPTER 20: WHO SAW WHAT WHEN?

- The Measure of All Things
- Classical Gas on the Mind
- Classical Coin Flipping
- Quantum Spin Flipping

PART FIVE: HOW PARALLEL UNIVERSES PREDICT A NEW NOTION OF TIME

- Do Thoughts and Wishes Time Travel?
- Neutron Star Time Machines

CHAPTER 21: TIME TRAVEL

CHAPTER 22: TIME TRAVEL PARADOX RESOLUTION BY PARALLEL UNIVERSES

CHAPTER 23: CLASHING WAVES OF TIME

- Time Is Invisible
- Classical Physics Has No Time Order
- Quantum Physics Has No Time Order
- Time Waves
- A New Picture of Time
- Which Future Sends the Message?
- Me in the Future Talks to Me in the Now

CHAPTER 24: WHEELER'S CHOICE

- A Photon from the Dawn of Time
- Experimental Verification of Backward-Through-Time Travel
- Now Makes the Past
- Does the Future Influence the Present?
- Resolving the Paradox: Time Travel and Parallel Universes

Time Is Self-Consistently Connected to Parallel Universes

CHAPTER 25: BUILDING A TIME MACHINE

- Dateline December 3, 2587: Galaxy News Report
- Dateline December 15, 2587: Galaxy News Report
- Back to the Present

PART SIX: TIME AND MIND IN PARALLEL UNIVERSES

- The Mind in Parallel Worlds

CHAPTER 26: MIND IN PARALLEL UNIVERSES

- Quantum Rules of the Game According to Hoyle
- A Knight's Alter Egos
- The Spouse-of-the-Day

CHAPTER 27: QUANTUM "TWO-TIMERS" AND MORE MESSAGES FROM THE FUTURE

- How to Violate the Uncertainty Principle: Talk to Yourself in the Future

CHAPTER 28: TAKING A PHOTOGRAPH OF ANOTHER PARALLEL UNIVERSE

- Get Your Cameras Ready
- The Rules of Parallel Universe Photography
- Taking the Photograph of a Parallel World
- Using Parallel Universes to Predict the Stock Market

CHAPTER 29: HOW IS SOMETHING KNOWN?

CHAPTER 30: QUANTUM COMPUTERS AND QUANTUM ETHICS

- Quantum Ethics

CHAPTER 31: TALKING TO TOMORROW'S PARALLEL UNIVERSE

- The Infinite Number of Parallel Universes... Inside Your Head
- The Scientist's Brain Is Split by the Atom
- Information Flows from Past to Present and from Future to Present

CHAPTER 32: ALPHA AND OMEGA

- Both the Future and the Past Exist
- The Omega Point
- An Overall View

CHAPTER 33: REALITY AND EXISTENCE

NOTES

GLOSSARY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

INDEX

About the Author

Fred Alan Wolf is a physicist and the author of five books, including *Taking the Quantum Leap*, which won an American Book Award. He has taught at San Diego State University, the University of Paris, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and other colleges and universities in the United States and abroad. He also lectures and consults worldwide. He received his Ph, D, in theoretical physics from the University of California, Los Angeles, and he lectures extensively around the world. He and his wife make their home in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

-- *From the Publisher*

Promotional Material from the Publisher

Universal praise for Fred Alan Wolf:

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--Norman Cousins, author of *Anatomy of an Illness* and *The Healing Heart*

"He has an extraordinary ability to make complex subjects seem easy to understand, through simple models and amusing examples."

--Willis Harman, President, Institute of Noetic Sciences

"Fred Alan Wolf has done it again. In another remarkable book he shows us, in his unique and penetrating way, that the world is not as it seems. Wolf is emerging as one of the leading interpreters of the new world view contained in modern physics."

---Larry Dossey, author of *Space, Time and Medicine*

"If parallel universes really exist, then we should be thankful we are living in this one, That way we can experience Fred Alan Wolf, whose special talent it is to tell us about all the others. In *Parallel Universes* Wolf instructs, challenges, confounds, perplexes, and outrages our sense of what is."

--Richard M, Restak, M.D., author of *The Brain*

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