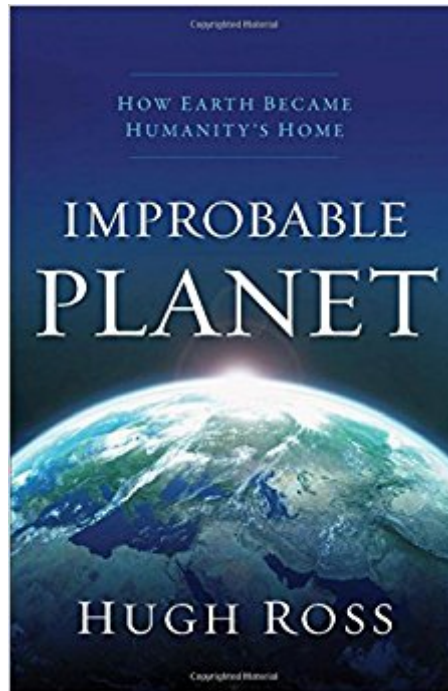




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Improbable Planet: How Earth Became Humanity's Home



Synopsis

The Latest Scientific Discoveries Point to an Intentional Creator Most of us remember the basics from science classes about how Earth came to be the only known planet that sustains complex life. But what most people don't know is that the more thoroughly researchers investigate the history of our planet, the more astonishing the story of our existence becomes. The number and complexity of the astronomical, geological, chemical, and biological features recognized as essential to human existence have expanded explosively within the past decade. An understanding of what is required to make possible a large human population and advanced civilizations has raised profound questions about life, our purpose, and our destiny. Are we really just the result of innumerable coincidences? Or is there a more reasonable explanation? This fascinating book helps nonscientists understand the countless miracles that undergird the exquisitely fine-tuned planet we call home--as if Someone had us in mind all along.

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Customer Reviews

Are we really just the result of innumerable coincidences? Or is there a more reasonable explanation? Most of us remember the basics from science classes about how Earth came to be the only known planet that sustains complex life. But what most people don't know is that the more thoroughly researchers investigate the history of our planet, the more astonishing the story of our existence becomes. The number and complexity of the astronomical, geological, chemical, and biological features recognized as essential to human existence have expanded explosively within the past decade. An understanding of what is required to make possible a large human population

and advanced civilizations has raised profound questions about life, our purpose, and our destiny. This fascinating book helps nonscientists understand the countless miracles that undergird the exquisitely fine-tuned planet we call home--as if Someone had us in mind all along. |Hugh Ross (PhD, University of Toronto) is founder and president of Reasons to Believe (www.reasons.org). He is the author of many books, including *More Than a Theory* and *Why the Universe Is the Way It Is*. An astronomer and a member of the pastoral staff of a church near Caltech, Ross has addressed students and faculty on over three hundred campuses in the United States and abroad on a wide variety of science-faith topics. From science conferences to churches to government and private research labs, Ross presents powerful evidence for a purpose-filled universe. He lives in the Los Angeles area.

"With his typical clarity, insight, and precision, Ross shows how recent scientific findings undermine naturalism while simultaneously providing evidence that there is a plan, purpose, and design in the universe."--Sean McDowell, professor, Biola University; bestselling author of over fifteen books, including *A New Kind of Apologist*"In *Improbable Planet*, Ross holds readers' hands, leading them in a readable yet gently technical format through a compelling layer-upon-layer argument for the distinctiveness of the planet on which we live and of the preparation for inimitable life on Earth. The text is replete with references from primary scientific articles in some of the most well-respected journals, underscoring the highest academic rigor taken in substantiating the factual claims. Only the shamefully flippant could dismiss this book as being a faith-filled presentation rather than the scholarly work it represents."--James M. Tour, T. T. and W. F. Chao Professor of Chemistry, Rice University; R&D magazine's 2013 Scientist of the Year"Hugh Ross brilliantly silences those who would claim that this Earth, this solar system, this galaxy, and this universe are nothing but a mere accident. *Improbable Planet* is technical yet poetic; thoroughly scientific yet faith-inspiring. I commend it to anyone who seriously contemplates the wonder of this planet we call Earth."--Pat Robertson, founder/chairman, The Christian Broadcasting Network, Inc."Hugh Ross takes us on a riveting tour of the scientific story, from the beginning of the cosmos to present humankind. He shows how that story pushes us toward the conclusion that purpose has driven the whole story, with the different pieces intertwined and each supporting the production of an ideal habitat for human beings right here and right now. Not only will this commend Christian faith to scientifically minded inquirers, but it will also strengthen the confidence of believers that we inhabit and participate in a meaningful and purposeful story."--C. John "Jack" Collins, professor of Old Testament, Covenant Theological Seminary"With thorough notations and research, Hugh Ross takes us on a journey

through time and space to bring us firmly back to our own planet, formed by one Creator. For those who need a scientific explanation of our universe and the life-forms within it, you will be satisfied. For those who already believe that God's divine hand created the world and all life within, you will be validated. Hugh Ross writes to stretch our intellect and to strengthen our faith. Improbable Planet does the improbable--demonstrates that the language of science does not threaten but instead augments the prose of evangelism."--Ed Young, senior pastor, Second Baptist Church, Houston, TX

Hugh Ross is an astrophysicist, and though he writes clearly and in layman's terms, by no means should this be considered a light read. It's packed with solid science and very well reasoned. Reading level is significantly higher than the typical newsstand science magazine, so if you have trouble with a mag like Scientific American or Discover, expect this to be very slow going. I love it, and intend to read it multiple times, because it's impossible to retain everything on the first read. Personally, I think that's a good thing.

I think this is a key book of Dr Ross's it was so helpful and I'll certainly read it again (after I've finished reading his other books).

Another excellent book by this author. Summarizes the many parameters for life as we know it that have been discovered to date.

This book tells it's readers exactly in full detail just how us humans came to be. The size of the universe, all the other galaxies out there and the configuration of our own galaxy plus all the other planets around us had to be exactly as they are for advanced life to exist. Had this all happened any other way, we would not be here. Hugh Ross explains, without a shadow of a doubt, this all had to be done by a supreme being. Only the God of the Holy Bible could have done this. Things did not happen by chance. The Christian God had one goal in mind and that is the redemption of souls from billions of people. Thank you so much Mr. Ross for this incite.

Pretty deep and a lot of detail that the average person wouldn't need but will be great for someone studying the creation of earth and the universe.

This book is packed with eye-opening insights into just how unique our amazing and awesome planet Earth really is. Dr. Ross clearly shows that, aside from believing in divine direction, the planet

we live on along with its teeming variety of life, is truly improbable and impossible to explain. It should also be noted that Dr. Ross is not the kind of Christian who foolishly rejects genuine scientific discoveries. Rather, he sees no conflict with the teaching of the Bible and what we learn from science when both are approached correctly and carefully.

Comprehensive and well-cited for counter-arguments. It is not a very easy read for the scientifically uninitiated, but for those willing to learn and cross-reference unfamiliar scientific terms, this book delivers. God bless Ross with a long life!

good

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