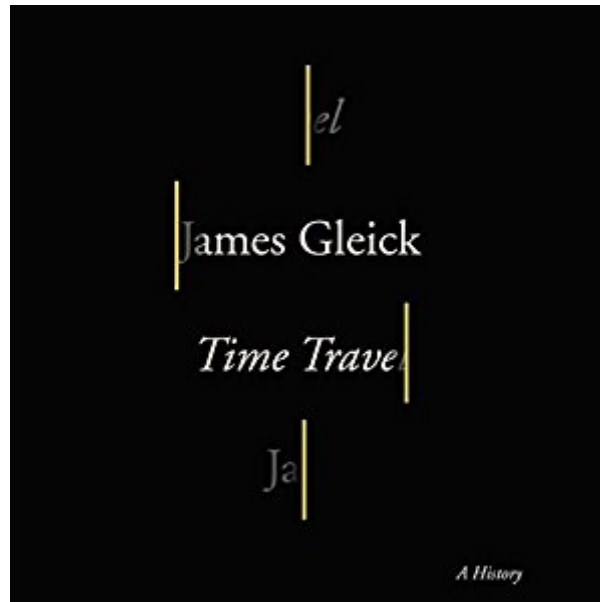




The book was found

Time Travel: A History



Synopsis

From the acclaimed author of *The Information and Chaos*, a mind-bending exploration of time travel: its subversive origins, its evolution in literature and science, and its influence on our understanding of time itself. Gleick's story begins at the turn of the 20th century, with the young H. G. Wells writing and rewriting the fantastic tale that became his first book, an international sensation: *The Time Machine*. A host of forces were converging to transmute the human understanding of time, some philosophical and some technological - the electric telegraph, the steam railroad, the discovery of buried civilizations, and the perfection of clocks. Gleick tracks the evolution of time travel as an idea in the culture, from Marcel Proust to Doctor Who, from Woody Allen to Jorge Luis Borges. He explores the inevitable looping paradoxes and examines the porous boundary between pulp fiction and modern physics. Finally, he delves into a temporal shift that is unsettling our own moment: the instantaneous wired world, with its all-consuming present and vanishing future.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 10 hours

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Random House Audio

Audible.com Release Date: September 27, 2016

Language: English

ASIN: B01KKQ8GT0

Best Sellers Rank: #22 in Books > Science & Math > Experiments, Instruments & Measurement > Time #39 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Genres & Styles > Science Fiction & Fantasy #45 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Science Fiction > History & Criticism

Customer Reviews

As usual, Gleick writes about his subject, the cultural phenomenon of interest in time travel, in a insightful and engaging manner. Fans of Gleick's earlier works, however, should know that this book is very different from its predecessors. In *Chaos*, Gleick described a branch of science that only graduate physics would encounter and explained it to a wider audience. While his work on information science was more wide-ranging it followed a similar pattern. Gleick's biographies of Feynman and Newton explained their contributions to science to those without a technical

background. *Time Travel*, on the other hand, primarily focuses on answering the interesting question, "Why has time travel so consumed the interest of readers of literature since the late 19th century while before it appeared only in hints and scattered fragments?" To answer this, Gleick engages in a thorough review of time-travel literature but only dips his toes into the actual science of time. In other words, the book is more an exploration of a branch of literature than a non-technical introduction to a branch of science. Even so, *Time Travel* is a good read and I would recommend the book both to those familiar with Gleick's earlier work and those who have not have not enjoyed that particular pleasure.

As a teenager one of my favorite books was H.G. Wells' *The Time Machine*. I would have given anything to be able to hop onto that Victorian bicycle-type machine, screw on the levers, and roar off into the distant future or ancient past. As James Gleick makes clear in this fascinating book, countless others have shared my dream, both before and after Wells' own time. *Time Travel: A History* is not an easy book to categorize: it is part scientific treatise, part philosophical musing, and part literary review. It is, however, an easy book with which to fall in love, one of those special though hard to define volumes that makes its readers want to keep it close at hand, to be dipped into whenever the need for wonder is great. The fourteen chapters in *Time Travel: A History* run roughly, though not consistently, chronologically from the nineteenth century to the present. Of necessity there are a number of scientific and philosophical discussions on whether or not time travel is possible, how, if it should turn out to be possible it might be accomplished, and whether or not such travel would be advisable (the "kill-your-own-grandfather dilemma," for example.) The concepts here are deep, but accessible to an audience which may not have scientific training but does possess a lively sense of curiosity. I found the segments dealing with literary time travel the most interesting. It is rare to find within one volume discussions ranging from Proust to Wells to Heinlein to Le Guin to Finney to Twain to Sterne to Amis to Eliot to Asimov, but Gleick has accomplished it. As a devotee of J.R.R. Tolkien I kept hoping Gleick would include his unfinished time travel tale *The Lost Road*, but I suppose there have to be limits, even to time travel! (If that piqued your interest I'd recommend Verlyn Flieger's *A Question of Time: J.R.R. Tolkien's Road to Faerie*.) This is a book of less than 350 pages, including a lengthy bibliography which readers looking for more time wanderings will find invaluable, but it holds within it a wealth of knowledge and speculation. *Time Travel: A History*, is like the rest of James Gleick's work: a book to be read and reread and savored many times.

Time Travel was an enjoyable read. Gleick is one of my favorite writers and, stylistically, he doesn't disappoint here. But part of what I loved about Chaos and The Information was how densely packed they were with scientific research and history. As a reader, it was something of a discovery process. This was similar in a sense, but he traced the concept of Time Travel through literature and media rather than science. References to scientific conceptions of time were relatively fleeting. One big surprise and disappointment was that he never addressed the various iterations of Quantum Eraser Experiments. Work from researchers like Anton Zeilinger. I can't think of anything in physics that is more pertinent to the question of time than experiments that look like retro-causality! Gleick has previously dealt with quantum physics (Feynman), so why did he avoid it here?? I can't imagine he didn't consider it. As a reader, it felt like a huge void.

This book is less about the science behind the prospect of time travel than about how that concept entered and captured the common imagination. Gleick looks at the creation of the notion by H.G. Wells -- the few earlier attempts were indirect and polemical -- and explores why it took humanity so long to consider the possibility of free movement through the fourth dimension. As the book proceeds, he considers other literary and film stories about time travel while also dipping his toe into the scientific debate about its plausibility. This book will not satisfy those who are curious about the science, and even avocational readers of popular physics will find it slight. It is much more a work of cultural exploration. In that, the author succeeds with this relatively light but very thoughtful book.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

World History, Ancient History, Asian History, United States History, European History, Russian History, Indian History, African History. (world history) Plan Ahead Central Europe Travel Guide: Prague Travel Guide, Austria Travel Guide, Vienna Travel Guide, Salzburg Travel Guide, Budapest Travel Guide (Plan Ahead Travel Guide) Travel: Amazingly Shocking Insider Travel Industry Tactics To FREE And Low Cost Travel Uncovered (Travel Books, Travel Reference) (travel writing, cruise, ... safari guide, how to travel the world) Greece: Greece Travel Guide: 101 Coolest Things to Do in Greece (Athens Travel Guide, Rhodes Travel, Crete Travel, Santorini Travel, Corfu Travel, Greek History, Greek Islands) History: World History in 50 Events: From the Beginning of Time to the Present (World History, History Books, Earth History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 3) The Briefest History of Time: The History of Histories of Time and the Misconstrued Association between Entropy and Time Prague: Prague Travel Guide: 101 Coolest Things to Do in Prague, Czech Republic (Prague Travel, Travel to Prague, Travel Eastern Europe, Europe Travel, Backpacking Europe, Czech Republic Travel) Prague: Prague Travel Guide: 101 Coolest Things to Do in Prague

(Prague Travel, Travel to Prague, Travel Eastern Europe, Europe Travel, Backpacking Europe, Czech Republic Travel) Italy Travel Guide: The Ultimate Guide to Travel to Italy on a Cheap Budget: (Italy, Italy Travel Guide, Rome Travel, Florence Travel, Europe Travel) Plan Ahead Italy Travel Guide: Rome Travel Guide, Venice Travel Guide, Italian Travel Guide, Florence Travel Guide, Italian Riviera Guide, Vatican City Guide (Plan Ahead Travel Guides Book 1) Thailand: Travel Guide 2017 (Thailand Travel Guide, Bangkok Travel Guide, Chiang Mai Travel Guide, Phuket Travel Guide, Pattaya Travel Guide, Thailand Guide) Great Britain Travel Guide: 101 Coolest Things to Do in Great Britain (UK Travel Guide, England Travel Guide, Wales Travel Guide, Scotland Travel Guide, Travel to Britain) The "No Time" Boxed Set Featuring Michael Collins: No Time To Run; No Time To Die; No Time Hide (Legal Thriller Featuring Michael Collins) A Flight in Time: A Time Travel Novel (The Thief in Time Series Book 2) History: Human History in 50 Events: From Ancient Civilizations to Modern Times (World History, History Books, People History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 1) Bolivia: Bolivia Travel Guide for Your Perfect Bolivian Adventure!: Written by Local Bolivian Travel Expert (Travel to Bolivia, Travel Bolivia, Bolivia Travel) Paris Travel Guide - Paris Travel: The Ultimate Guide to Travel to Paris on a Cheap Budget: (Honeymoon in Paris, Paris Travel Guide, Travel on a Budget, Save Money) Paris Travel Guide: Paris, France: Travel Guide Bookâ "A Comprehensive 5-Day Travel Guide to Paris, France & Unforgettable French Travel (Best Travel Guides to Europe Series Book 1) Prague Travel Guide: Prague, Czech Republic: Travel Guide Bookâ "A Comprehensive 5-Day Travel Guide to Prague, Czech Republic & Unforgettable Czech Travel (Best Travel Guides to Europe Series Book 7) Rome : The best Rome Travel Guide The Best Travel Tips About Where to Go and What to See in Rome,Italy: (Rome tour guide, Rome travel ...Travel to Italy, Travel to Rome)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)