Worlds In Collision

IMMANUEL VELIKOVSKY

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Synopsis
With this book Immanuel Velikovsky first presented the revolutionary results of his 10-year-long interdisciplinary research to the public, founded modern catastrophism - based on eyewitness reports by our ancestors - shook the doctrine of uniformity of geology as well as Darwin’s theory of evolution, put our view of the history of our solar system, of the Earth and of humanity on a completely new basis - and caused an uproar that is still going on today. Worlds in Collision - written in a brilliant, easily understandable and entertaining style and full to the brim with precise information - can be considered one of the most important and most challenging books in the history of science. Not without reason was this book found open on Einstein’s desk after his death. For all those who have ever wondered about the evolution of the earth, the history of mankind, traditions, religions, mythology or just the world as it is today, Worlds in Collision is an absolute MUST-READ!

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Customer Reviews
This is among the league of revolutionary books that change the world and add to human knowledge in the true sense. I first read it aged 11 in 1979, in condensed form in the Book Section of the "Reader’s Digest" magazine, and it changed and shaped my whole outlook on life. Here I must point out that it isn't an inspirational literary or poetic work on an abstract or moral issue; it is a book on an ingenious theory that predicates several ancient historical and legendary events in Human history upon various changes in the solar system. In other words, it seeks a rational basis for issues regarded as ephemeral and mythical at best. That is what is so remarkable to me about it.
Velikovsky postulates that the formation of the planet Venus was an extremely recent event in the history of our Solar System - taking place perhaps only 4000 years ago (the Earth by comparison, was formed 4.5 billion years ago, and the "Big Bang" is said to have taken place about 11 billion years ago). Taking place as it did within the era of Man's recorded history, it should have left many awesome and profound effects upon our Earth, the second closest planet to it, which the ancients would have chronicled and passed down in legend and religious lore. And indeed there are. According to Velikovsky, Venus was "torn out" of Jupiter by the influence of a passing star. It then became a huge molten "comet" which passed by Mars and the Earth, to settle in its present orbit around the sun. Although all this is still conjecture at best, it is revolutionary and ingenious. Velikovsky goes on to offer it as an explanation for several seminal events that took place in Moses’ time, when he was leading the Israelites out of Egypt (he himself was a Jew).

This book is worth the effort. Whether a scholar, or a person with a healthy curiosity, this book should stimulate your brain cells. The book does not roll along like a Tom Clancy novel, but it does describe more chaos and destruction than all his novels combined. We’re talking "a disaster of Biblical proportions, Old Testament, Mr. Mayor, real wrath of God type stuff, fire and brimstone coming down from the skies, rivers and seas boiling, 40 years of darkness, earthquakes, volcanoes, . . . dogs & cats living together, mass hysteria" ("Ghostbusters I" but right on target). Reading this book gives the open minded reader the opportunity to view the history of the Earth in a completely new way, and some of our favorite mysteries of the past may be decoded in conjunction with Velikovsky’s “theories”. The scientific discoveries of the 49 years since the book was first published have been very kind to Dr. Velikovsky, but not so kind to scientific dogma of the same period). Velikovsky dares to read ancient works literally, and to look for proof of their accuracy, even when they appear flawed. If a document states that the sun rose in the west, Velikovsky is willing to search for proof that it did, instead of presuming the text is flawed. Velikovsky’s ideas help to unravel mysteries which cannot be decoded until we are willing to challenge the scientific dogma which presumes that ancient documents are incorrect whenever they disagree with our perceptions of what they ought to say. Will Stonehenge be forever a mystery, because theories that it was built as an astrological computer are dashed by the fact that present planetary orbits do not fit its alignment?

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