



## The New World of Mr Tompkins: George Gamow's Classic Mr Tompkins in Paperback

*By George Gamow*

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### The New World of Mr Tompkins: George Gamow's Classic Mr Tompkins in Paperback By George Gamow

Mr. Tompkins is back! The mild-mannered bank clerk with the short attention span and vivid imagination has inspired, charmed, and informed young and old alike since the publication of the hugely successful Mr Tompkins in Paperback (by George Gamow) in 1965. Now, this highly affable character returns to embark on a set of adventures that explore the extreme edges of the universe--the smallest, the largest, the fastest, and the farthest. Just by following the experiences and dreams of Mr. Tompkins, readers discover and come to know the merry dance of cosmic mysteries, including: Einstein's theory of relativity, bizarre effects near light-speed, the birth and death of the universe, black holes, quarks, space warps and antimatter, the fuzzy world of the quantum, and that ultimate cosmic mystery--love. The story of Mr. Tompkins' journey to the frontiers of modern physics will delight and inform all readers. Russell Stannard is a best-selling popular science writer and the author of the critically acclaimed Uncle Albert series of science books for children.

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**The New World of Mr Tompkins: George Gamow's Classic Mr Tompkins in Paperback** By George Gamow **Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

From Scientific American

Some 60 years ago physicist Gamow conceived the notion of presenting scientific ideas to the layperson through the medium of a fictional character, C.G.H. Tompkins, "a bank clerk interested in modern science." (Tompkins's initials derive from three fundamental physical constants:  $c$ , the velocity of light;  $G$ , the gravitational constant; and  $h$ , the quantum constant.) Gamow produced two popular books featuring Tompkins and then combined them in *Mr. Tompkins in Paperback*. Now science writer Stannard presents a considerably revised version of that book. Tompkins is still a willing if rather dim learner in his associations with a physicist identified only as "the professor." Gamow and Stannard, through the professor and his daughter, Maud (who marries Tompkins in chapter 10), deal with such concepts as relativity, quantum theory and the structure of the atom. The reader will get both entertainment and plenty of information about modern physics and astrophysics.

*EDITORS OF SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN*

Review

"[Mr. Tompkins's] adventures and mishaps illuminate in startling fashion the oddities of relativity and quantum theory. Much loved by physics students a generation ago, Mr. Tompkins now embarks on some new escapades, courtesy of coauthor Stannard, who updated the original tales and added illustrations in Gamow's appealingly simple style." *Science News*

"This revision makes Mr Tompkins not only more accessible to the present generation of both scientists and nonscientists, but more in tune with current science and sensibilities." *Science Books and Films*

"The best just got better....It is absolutely the best place to get a feel for the most important scientific ideas of the 20th century. It is also a perfect way to get to visual grips with relativity theory and quantum mechanics." *The Independent*

"The real measure of Stannard is that the new material is covered comprehensibly and in a style that matches the original." *The Times Higher Education Supplement*

"The best just got better...It is absolutely the best place to get a feel for the most important scientific ideas of the 20th century. It is also a perfect way to get to visual grips with relativity theory and quantum mechanics." *The Independent*

"The reader will get both entertainment and plenty of information about modern physics." *Scientific American*

"...a lovely book which I am sure everyone interested in modern physics, from the age of eleven upwards, will enjoy enormously." *Nature*

"If newcomers who have not seen the original read the book, they will find a charming, whimsical introduction to modern physics...*The New World*...is a unique book." *Physics Today*

About the Author

George Gamow (1904 to 1968) was not only one of the most influential physicists of the twentieth century (one of the founders of the Big Bang theory) but was also a master at science popularisation. Of his many popular books, the best known is *Mr Tompkins in Paperback* (1965).

Russell Stannard has established a reputation as one of the most gifted popularisers of science through numerous media appearances and projects, and in particular for his *Uncle Albert Trilogy* (*The Time and Space of Uncle Albert*, *Black Holes* and *Uncle Albert and the Quantum Quest*), which covers the work of Albert Einstein and quantum theory in a way that is accessible to children of 11+. These books have enjoyed much success and critical acclaim, being translated into 15 languages, shortlisted for the Rhone-Poulenc non-fiction Book Prizes, the Whitbread Children's Novel of the Year, and the American Science Writing Award.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Melissa Jackson:**

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style within this era globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information that will give you benefit in your life. Using book everyone in this world could share their idea. Publications can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their reader with their story or their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the publications. But also they write about the data about something that you need example. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors in this world always try to improve their expertise in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write for their book. One of them is this *The New World of Mr Tompkins: George Gamow's Classic Mr Tompkins in Paperback*.

#### **Gary Clark:**

Are you kind of active person, only have 10 or even 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind skill or thinking skill perhaps analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book as compared to can satisfy your short space of time to read it because all this time you only find publication that need more time to be examine. *The New World of Mr Tompkins: George Gamow's Classic Mr Tompkins in Paperback* can be your answer as it can be read by a person who have those short free time problems.

#### **Brian Rocha:**

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