

# 1. Ways of Seeing by John Berger

## *Ways of Seeing by John Berger*

Explores how we perceive visual art and imagery in society. Berger challenges traditional interpretations, examining how our cultural conditioning affects what we see. Perfect for students interested in art criticism, media studies, or how visual culture shapes our worldview.

[LINK to more information](#)

## Ways of Seeing John Berger



Seeing comes before words. The child looks and recognizes before it can speak.

But there is also another sense in which seeing comes before words. It is seeing which establishes our place in the surrounding world; we explain that world with words, but words can never undo the fact that we are surrounded by it. The relation between what we see and what we know is never settled.



The Surrealist painter Magritte commented on this always-present gap between words and seeing in a painting called *The Key of Dreams*.

The way we see things is affected by what we

## 2. *On Photography* by Susan Sontag

### ***On Photography* by Susan Sontag**

A thought-provoking analysis of photography's impact on modern culture. Sontag examines how photos influence our understanding of reality and ethics. Ideal for students interested in photography, media studies, or how images shape our perception of the world.

[LINK to more information](#)

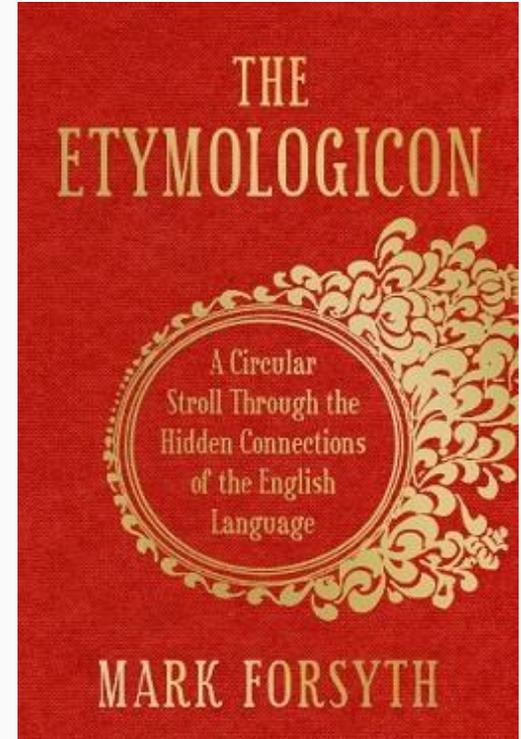


### 3. *The Etymologicon* by Mark Forsyth

#### ***The Etymologicon* by Mark Forsyth**

A witty journey through the connections between words and their origins. Forsyth unravels fascinating linguistic histories with humour and insight. Great for word lovers, language enthusiasts, and anyone who enjoys discovering unexpected connections.

[LINK to more information](#)

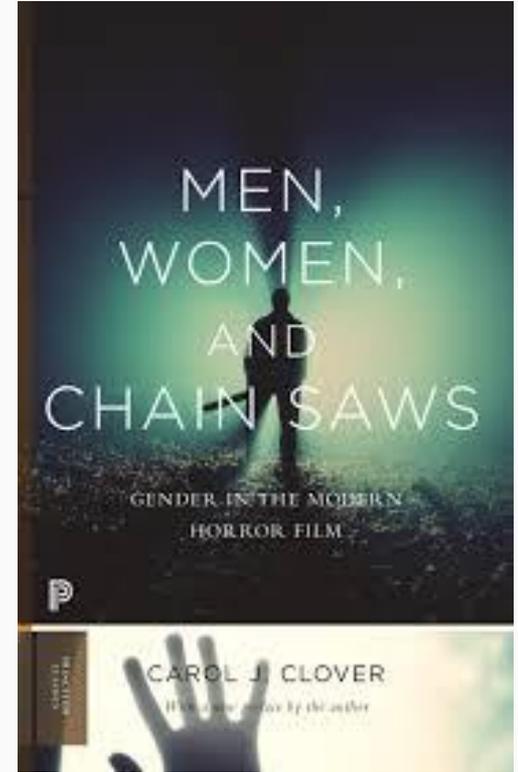


## 4. *Men, Women and Chain Saws* by Carol Clover

### ***Men, Women and Chain Saws* by Carol Clover**

*Examines gender in horror films, especially the "final girl" phenomenon. Clover explores how these films challenge traditional gender roles. Perfect for film buffs, gender studies enthusiasts, or anyone interested in pop culture analysis.*

[LINK to more information](#)

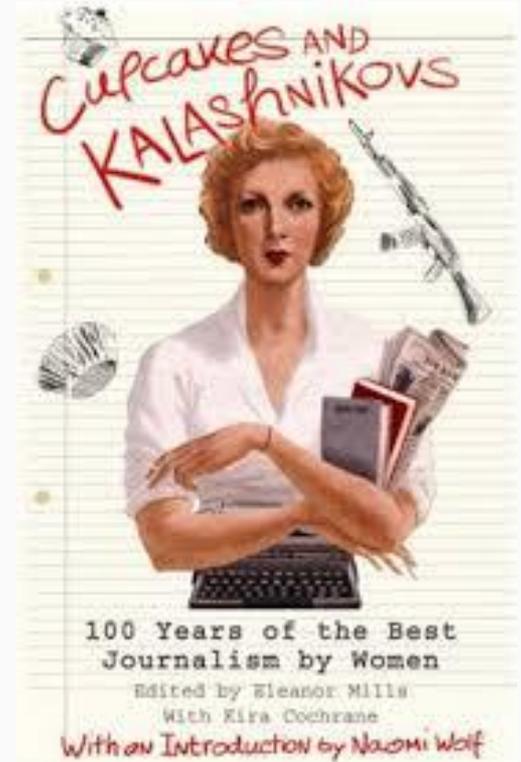


## 5. *Cupcakes and Kalashnikovs* edited by Eleanor Mills

### ***Cupcakes and Kalashnikovs*** edited by Eleanor Mills

*A collection of groundbreaking journalistic pieces by women writers across history. Showcases powerful female voices and their impact on society. Excellent for aspiring writers, journalism students, and those interested in women's perspectives.*

[LINK to more information](#)

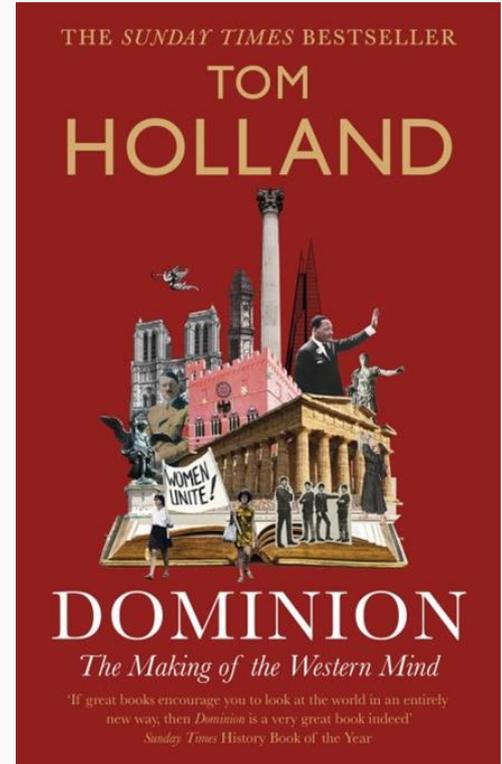


## 6. *Dominion* by Tom Holland

### ***Dominion* by Tom Holland**

*Explores Christianity's profound influence on Western civilization, from ancient times to today. Holland traces how Christian ideas shaped our concepts of morality, politics, and human rights. Fascinating for history buffs and anyone curious about cultural foundations.*

[LINK to more information](#)

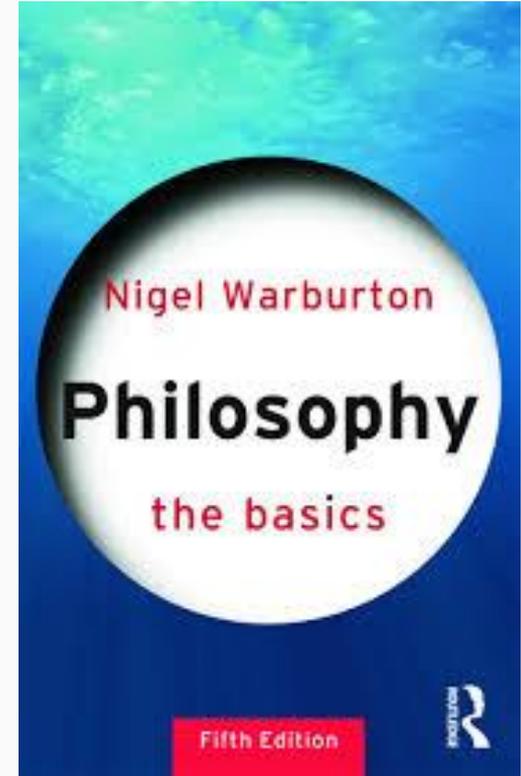


## 7. Philosophy: The Basics by Nigel Warburton

### ***Philosophy: The Basics by Nigel Warburton***

*An accessible introduction to key philosophical concepts and thinkers. Warburton simplifies complex ideas without oversimplifying them. Perfect for beginners interested in exploring life's big questions through structured thinking.*

[LINK to more information](#)

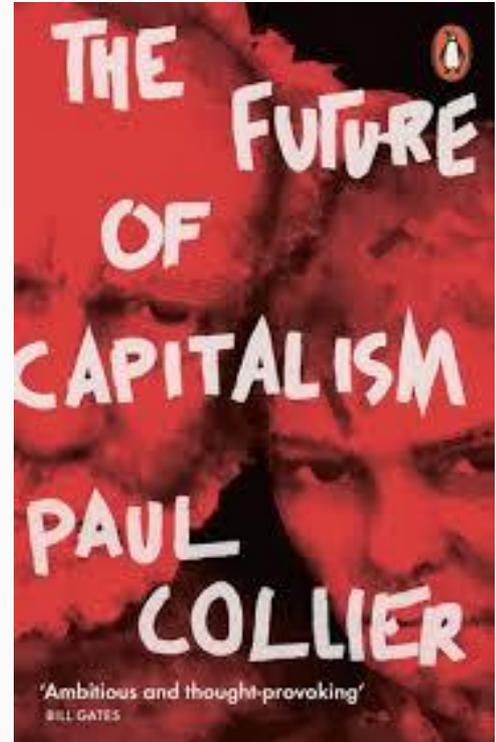


## 8. *The Future of Capitalism* by Paul Collier

### ***The Future of Capitalism* by Paul Collier**

*Examines economic and social divides in modern capitalist societies and proposes ethical solutions. Collier balances critique with hopeful pragmatism. Excellent for economics students and those concerned about inequality and social fragmentation.*

[LINK to more information](#)



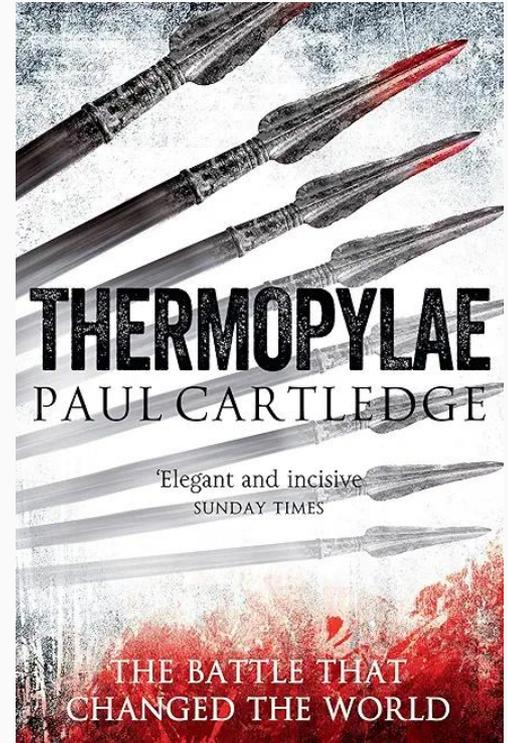
## 9. Thermopylae by Paul Cartledge

### ***Thermopylae by Paul Cartledge***

*Recounts the famous ancient battle where Spartan warriors fought against overwhelming Persian forces. Cartledge separates historical fact from myth.*

*Exciting for military history enthusiasts and those interested in ancient Greece.*

[LINK to more information](#)

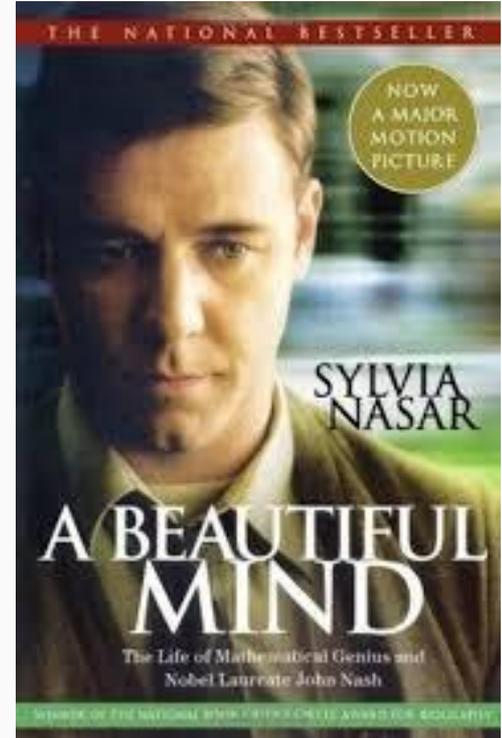


## 10. *A Beautiful Mind* by Sylvia Nasar

### *A Beautiful Mind* by Sylvia Nasar

*Chronicles mathematician John Nash's brilliant career, struggle with schizophrenia, and remarkable recovery. Nasar balances complex mathematics with human drama. Inspiring for maths enthusiasts and anyone interested in the resilience of the human spirit.*

[LINK to more information](#)

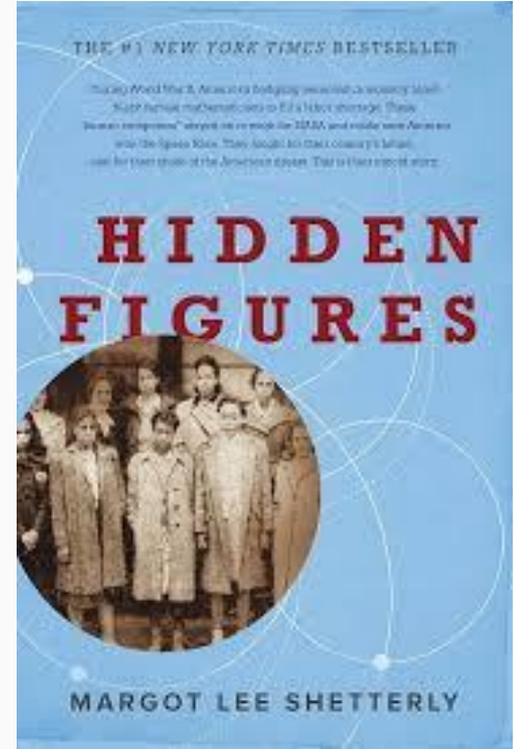


# 11. *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly

## ***Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly**

*Reveals the untold story of African American women mathematicians who helped NASA win the space race. Shetterly highlights their brilliance despite discrimination. Inspiring for maths enthusiasts, history buffs, and anyone interested in overcoming barriers.*

[LINK to more information](#)

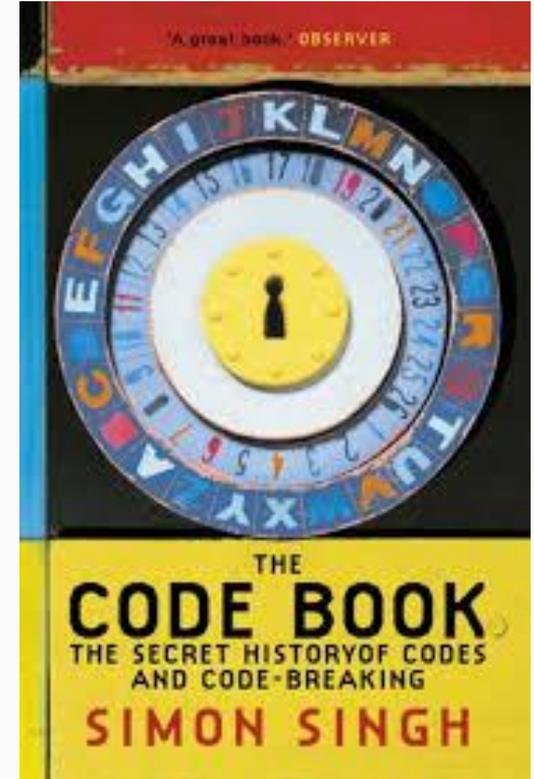


## 12. The Code Book by Simon Singh

### ***The Code Book by Simon Singh***

*Takes readers through the fascinating history of codes and codebreaking from ancient Egypt to quantum cryptography. Singh makes complex mathematics accessible and thrilling. Perfect for puzzle-lovers, history enthusiasts, and aspiring cryptographers.*

[LINK to more information](#)

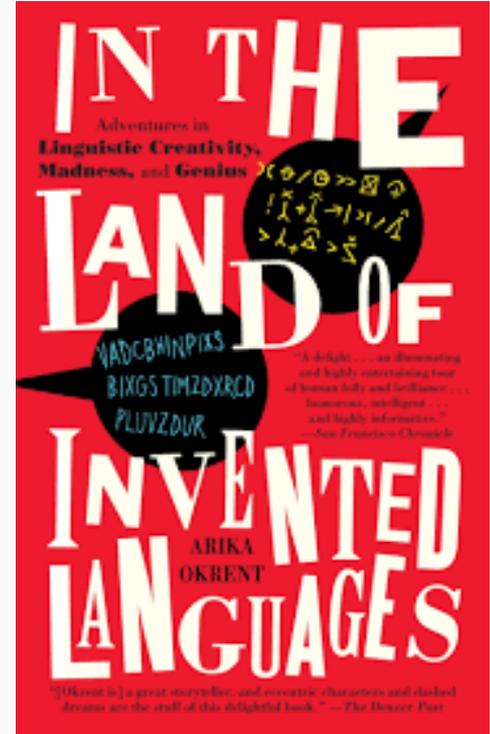


## 13. *In the Land of Invented Languages* by Arika Okrent

### *In the Land of Invented Languages* by Arika Okrent

*Explores artificial languages like Esperanto and Klingon, and the fascinating people who create them. Okrent balances linguistics with entertaining stories. Delightful for language lovers, sci-fi fans, and anyone fascinated by human communication.*

[LINK to more information](#)

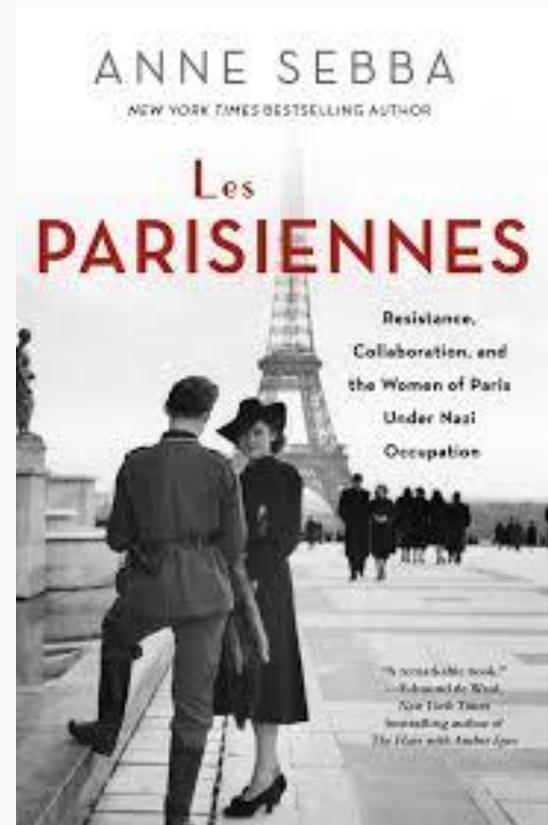


## 14. *Les Parisiennes* by Anne Sebba

### ***Les Parisiennes* by Anne Sebba**

*Chronicles the lives of women in Paris during Nazi occupation. Sebba reveals stories of resistance, collaboration, and survival. Compelling for history students, Francophiles, and those interested in women's experiences during wartime.*

[LINK to more information](#)

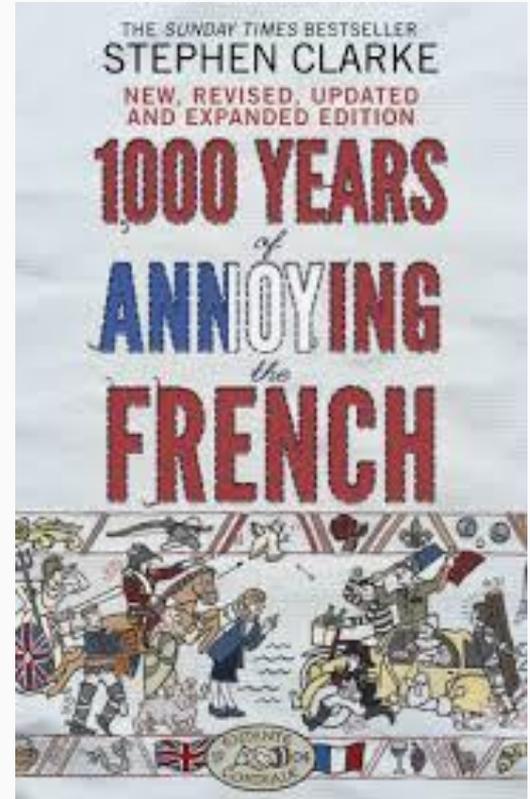


## 15. 1000 Years of Annoying the French by Stephen Clarke

### ***1000 Years of Annoying the French by Stephen Clarke***

*A humorous look at the long, complicated relationship between Britain and France. Clarke combines historical facts with witty observations. Entertaining for history students, Francophiles, and anyone who enjoys historical comedy.*

[LINK to more information](#)

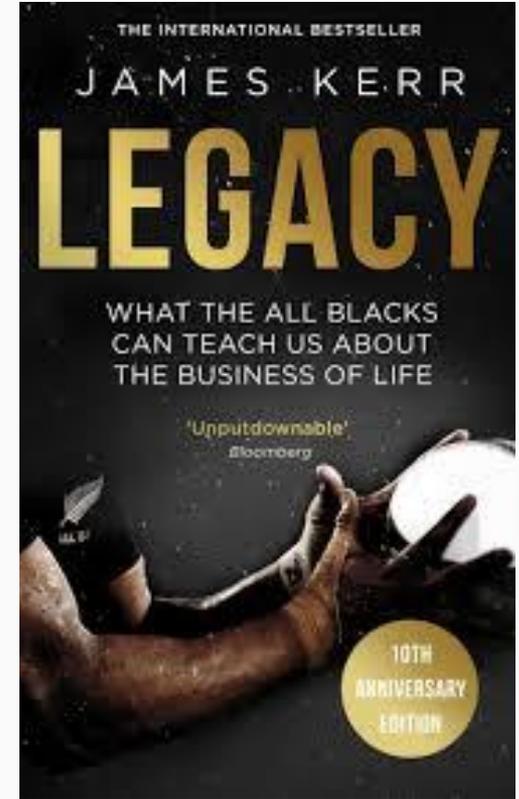


## 16. Legacy: 15 Lessons in Leadership by James Kerr

### ***Legacy: 15 Lessons in Leadership by James Kerr***

*Examines the success principles of New Zealand's All Blacks rugby team. Kerr connects sports excellence with broader leadership lessons. Inspiring for athletes, aspiring leaders, and anyone interested in high-performance culture.*

[LINK to more information](#)

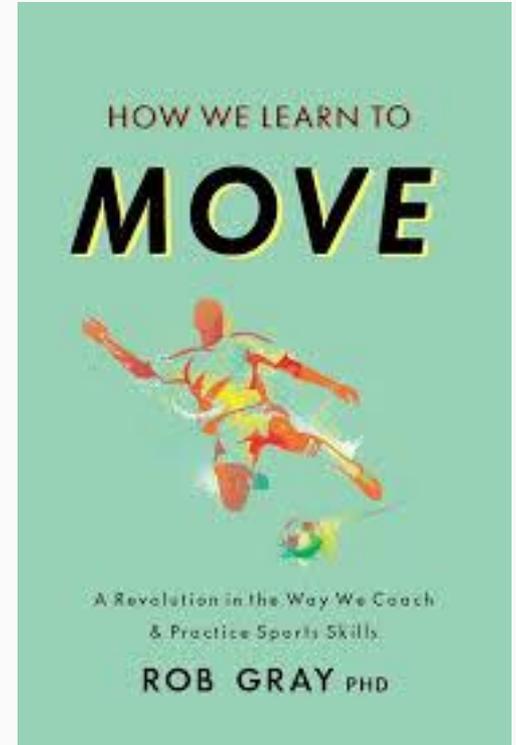


## 17. How We Learn to Move by Rob Gray

### ***How We Learn to Move by Rob Gray***

*Explores the science behind skill acquisition in sports and physical activities. Gray combines neuroscience with practical insights. Fascinating for athletes, coaches, and anyone interested in how our bodies learn movement patterns.*

[LINK to more information](#)

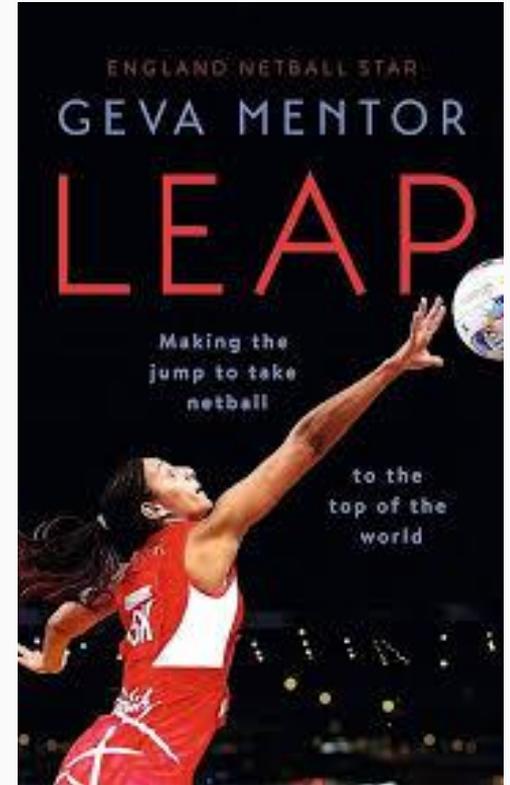


## 18. *Leap: ... Netball to the Top... by Geva Mentor*

### ***Leap: Making the Jump to Take Netball to the Top of the World by Geva Mentor***

*Chronicles Mentor's journey to help transform England's netball team into world champions. Combines personal story with insights on teamwork and determination. Inspiring for netball players and anyone interested in sports psychology.*

[LINK to more information](#)

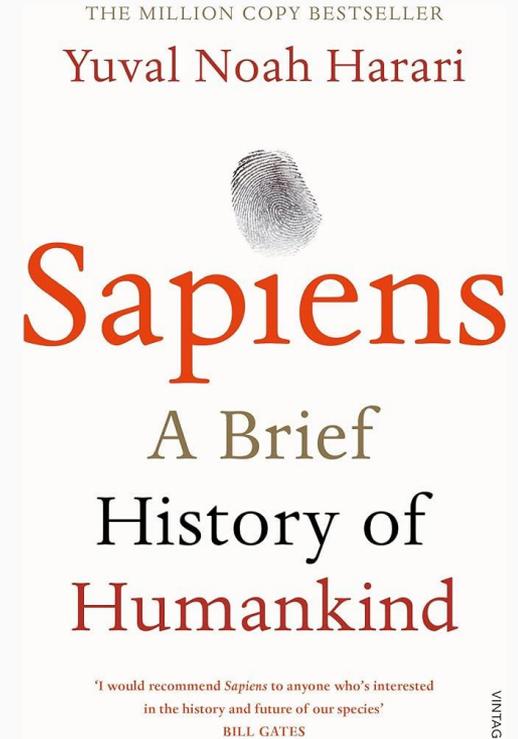


## 19. Sapiens by Yuval Noah Harari

### **Sapiens by Yuval Noah Harari**

*Takes readers through humanity's entire history, from prehistoric times to today. Harari offers provocative insights about what makes humans unique. Fascinating for anyone curious about human nature, history, and our collective future.*

[LINK to more information](#)

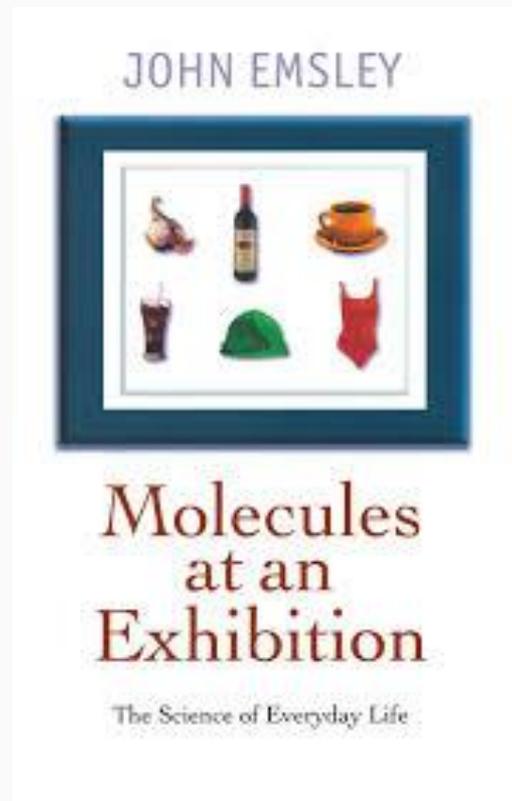


## 20. Molecules at an Exhibition by John Emsley

### ***Molecules at an Exhibition*** **by John Emsley**

*Presents everyday chemistry in an accessible, engaging way by examining ordinary substances. Emsley reveals the extraordinary science behind the ordinary. Perfect for chemistry students and anyone curious about the molecular world around us.*

[LINK to more information](#)

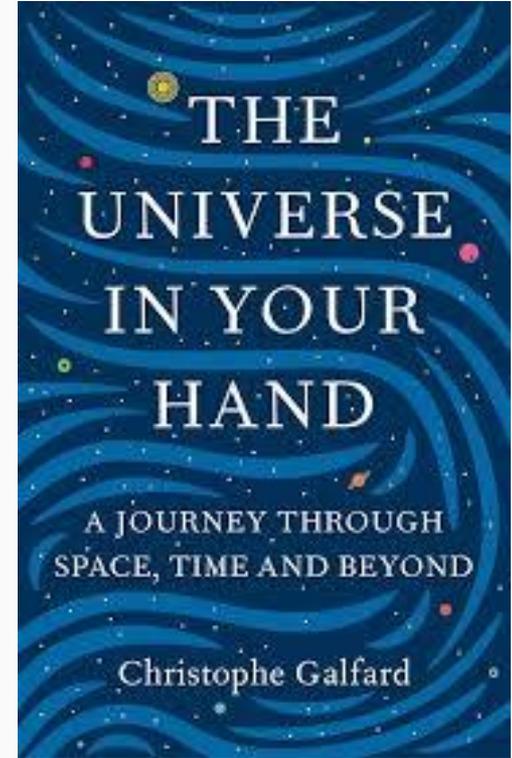


## 21. *The Universe in Your Hand* by Christophe Galfard

### ***The Universe in Your Hand*** **by Christophe Galfard**

*Takes you on an imaginative journey through quantum mechanics, relativity, and cosmology. Galfard makes complex physics accessible without equations. Mind-blowing for anyone curious about the universe's biggest mysteries.*

[LINK to more information](#)

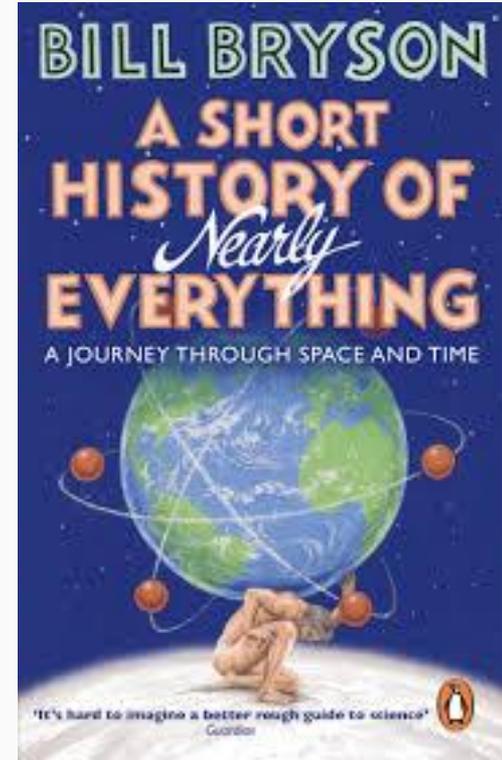


## 22. A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson

### ***A Short History of Nearly Everything*** **by Bill Bryson**

*Explores science's biggest questions with humour and clarity. Bryson takes readers from the Big Bang to human civilization. Perfect for science newcomers who want an entertaining overview of how our world works.*

[LINK to more information](#)

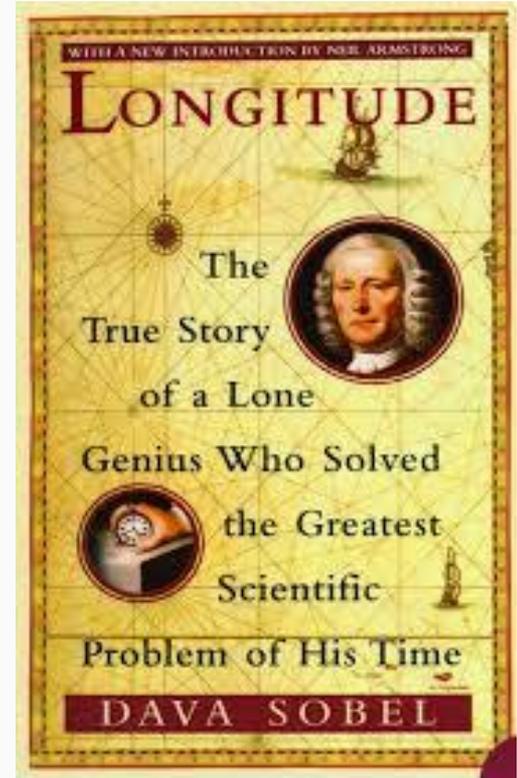


## 23. Longitude by Dava Sobel

### ***Longitude by Dava Sobel***

*Tells the captivating story of John Harrison's quest to solve the longitude problem that plagued sailors for centuries. Sobel combines science, history and human determination. Fascinating for those interested in navigation, invention, or historical problem-solving.*

[LINK to more information](#)

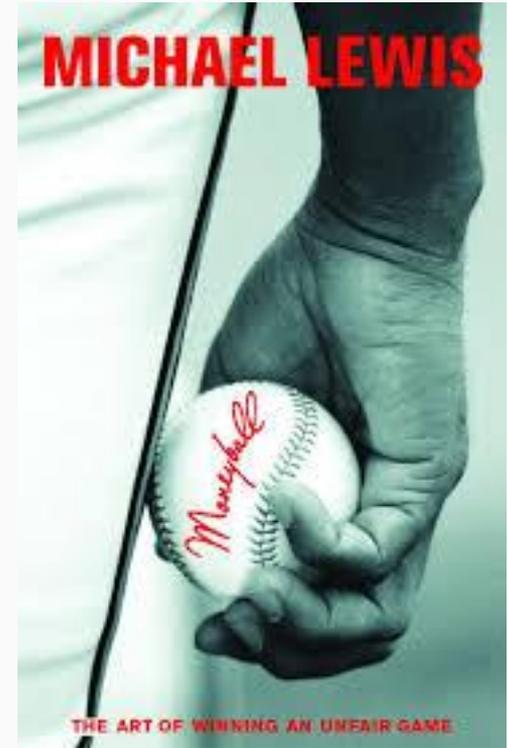


## 24. Moneyball by Michael Lewis

### **Moneyball by Michael Lewis**

*Chronicles how the Oakland A's used statistical analysis to build a competitive baseball team on a small budget. Lewis makes economics and statistics exciting through sports. Engaging for sports fans, math enthusiasts, and those interested in innovative thinking.*

[LINK to more information](#)



## 25. *I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai

### *I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai

*This powerful memoir tells the story of Malala, who defied the Taliban's ban on girls' education in Pakistan and survived an assassination attempt at age 15. Yousafzai recounts her journey from schoolgirl to global activist. Inspiring for human rights, female empowerment, and worldwide change.*

[LINK to more information](#)

