

Scientists and governments are vigorously searching for signs of life in the universe. Will their efforts meet with success?

Award-winning author Paul Davies, an eminent scientist, explores the ramifications of that success in his fascinating new book.

What must we assume about the laws of physics, the nature of the universe, and the nature of life and intelligence in order to expect that there is intelligent life out there? And if there is, what would it do to our science, our religions, and our world view in general? Are We Alone? ponders the enormous implications for such major philosophical and religious issues as the mindbody problem, the nature of life and consciousness, and the place of mankind in the cosmos.

Human society is only a few thousand years old. Davies argues that if we get a message from space, it will come from communities much more advanced than our own. What would we make of the existence of a billion-year-old technological society? Would we be communicating with machine or organic intelligence? If life exists elsewhere, does this imply the existence of a plan or a design? If evolution proceeds randomly and we are the result of myriad accidents, could intelligent life evolve twice?

Delving deeply into profound ideas in mathematics and philosophy—from Descartes to Darwin to Dennett—Davies takes us on a whirlwind journey through issues in quantum theory, mind and matter, consciousness, and time, as he explains why he believes "they're out there"—and what that implies. —from Basic Books



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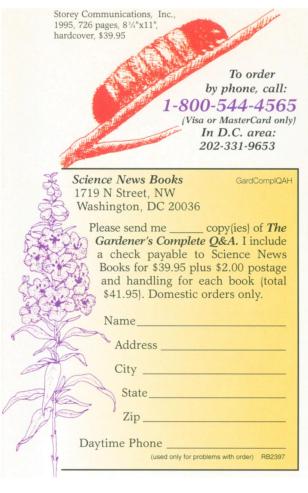


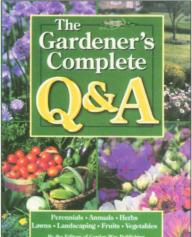
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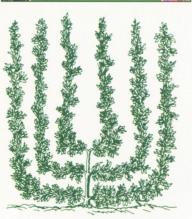
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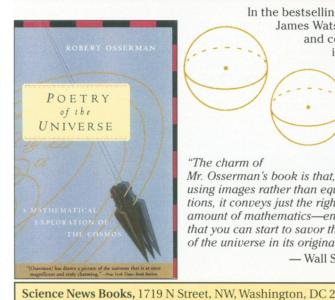




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