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Harvard 100 List

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[#60 Bill](#) **#61 Lisa Randall**

[Frist](#)

Professor of Physics, Harvard
University

Location Cambridge, MA

Age 44

College A.B. 1983

[#62 Mark
Zuckerberg](#)

GSAS Ph.D. 1987

Proposed a string-theory model in which **the universe has more dimensions than the 3+1 we know about** and eloquently explored it in her 2005 book *Warped Passages*. The Large Hadron Collider at CERN, the world’s biggest particle accelerator, will test the theory—which she developed with Johns Hopkins professor Raman Sundrum—next year. If the results are conclusive, Randall’s work could turn string theory into a “theory of everything”—an explanation of every physical phenomenon in the world. Like **Brian Greene**, also a graduate of New York’s Stuyvesant High and a poplizer of string theory, she happens to be drop-dead gorgeous; an admirer writing in the *Sunday Times* of London called her “a sexier Jodie Foster.”

However... The naysayers who contend that string theory is little more than science fiction seem to be gaining traction along with space on bookstore shelves. This month saw the publication of *The Trouble with Physics*, by **Lee Smolin**, and *Not Even Wrong*, by Greene’s Columbia colleague **Peter Woit**.

Google hits 169,000 for “Lisa Randall”; 919,000 for “Brian Greene



Rick Friedman/Corbis

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