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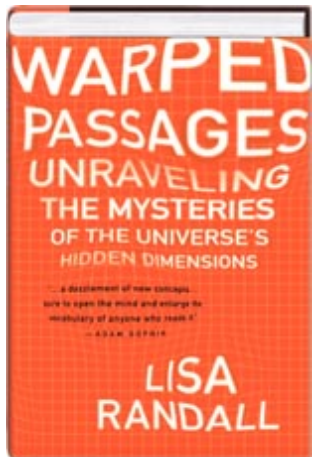
About this author  
**LISA RANDALL**  
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## WARPED PASSAGES

By Lisa Randall



Member's Price: **\$22.99**

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 512 pages  
 Item Number:  
 779651

Publisher:  
 HarperCollins  
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 September, 2005

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### CLUB REVIEW

A heady perspective on string theory's consequences comes from Harvard theoretical physicist Lisa Randall. By the mid-1990s, many theorists had turned their attention to branes, defined as distinct regions of spacetime that (unlike strings) extend through a possibly multidimensional slice of space. In *Warped Passages*, Randall offers a comprehensive look at string theory, shows how it evolved into brane theory, and summarizes the properties of so-called "braneworlds," many discovered by Randall herself along with her colleague Raman Sundrum.

Why are branes important? As Randall shows, they may help solve one of physics' knottiest enigmas: The fact that gravity is so much weaker than the other fundamental forces of nature. Now suppose, says Randall, that our familiar four-dimensional Universe is actually part of the surface of a brane embedded in higher-dimensional space. All particles and forces would be confined to the brane's surface—except for gravitons, the theoretical particles that carry gravitational force. This would explain gravity's apparent relative weakness—much of its force lies off of our brane, in a realm we can't observe directly.

Hungry for more details about braneworlds? *Warped Passages* awaits you!

WARPED PASSAGES  
77-9651  
93 Illustrations  
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