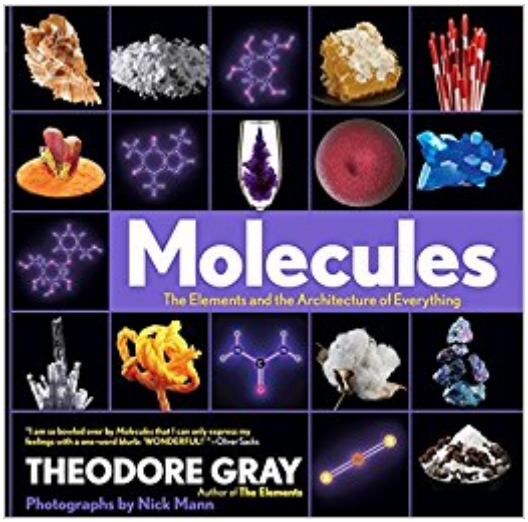
Molecules: The Elements And The Architecture Of Everything



Synopsis

In his highly anticipated sequel to The Elements, Theodore Gray demonstrates how the elements of the periodic table combine to form the molecules that make up our world. Everything physical is made up of the elements and the infinite variety of molecules they form when they combine with each other. In Molecules, Theodore Gray takes the next step in the grand story that began with the periodic table in his best-selling book, The Elements: A Visual Exploration of Every Known Atom in the Universe. Here, he explores through fascinating stories and trademark stunning photography the most interesting, essential, useful, and beautiful of the millions of chemical structures that make up every material in the world. Gray begins with an explanation of how atoms bond to form molecules and compounds, as well as the difference between organic and inorganic chemistry. He then goes on to explore the vast array of materials molecules can create, including: soaps and solvents; goops and oils; rocks and ores; ropes and fibers; painkillers and dangerous drugs; sweeteners; perfumes and stink bombs; colors and pigments; and controversial compounds including asbestos, CFCs, and thimerosal. Big, gorgeous photographs, as well as diagrams of the compounds and their chemical bonds, rendered with never before seen beauty, fill the pages and capture molecules in their various states. As he did in The Elements, Gray shows us molecules as we've never seen them before. It's the perfect book for his loyal fans who've been eager for more and for anyone fascinated with the mysteries of the material world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

+So in my review of The Elements, I stupidly suggested that the book was a great example of why e-books weren't going to replace physical books any time soon. Well we know how that turned out (the fully interactive Elements app on iOS is breathtaking and undoubtedly many times more popular than the book). I'm sure Touch Press is about to release Molecules as an iOS e-book app too [Update: they did], but I'm still really glad I got the physical book."The Elements" and "Molecules" look very similar, but there are some subtle differences due to the difference in their subjects. The Elements was primarily a beautiful picture book and catalog of all the elements. But that made it somewhat more abstract since most of us rarely interact directly with more than a handful of elements, and their atomic nature is less a part of every day experience. The text was mostly interesting trivia for each element.Molecules on the other hand moves up a layer from atoms to molecular compounds, and as such it comes a step closer to our daily experience. The Elements was a book you mostly looked at, but Molecules is a book you'll want to READ since it's jam packed full of interesting and useful information about the chemistry of nature and human industry.It's still just as lavishly illustrated and beautifully produced as The Elements, but there's much more depth here because the author is not compelled to cover "all" of anything as was the case in the earlier book (where honestly there are a lot of pretty boring or obscure elements).

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