

How I Killed Pluto and Why It Had It Coming



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HOW I KILLED PLUTO AND WHY IT HAD IT COMING



Spiegel & Grau, 2012. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: Praise for How I Killed Pluto and Why It Had It Coming "Browns brisk, enjoyable How I Killed Pluto and Why It Had It Coming chronicles the whole saga [of the demotion of Pluto] and, in the process, makes Plutos sad fate easier to take. If weve lost a planet, weve gained a sprightly new voice for popular science&Writing with an appealing wit, Mr. Brown resists the glibness to which science popularizations sometimes fall prey. Instead he leavens his scientific account with a memoir of how he discovered the joys of becoming a husband and a father during the same period that he thought he was discovering planets. Its a refreshing twist on stereotype: the scientist neither as madman nor mystic, but mensch&The cheerful, unaffected tone makes it hard not to like Mr. Brown, and to root for him when he finds himself in the midst of controversy& Amazingly, the author spins these parliamentary proceedings into a nail-biting roller-coaster ride: the skullduggery of secret committees, the raucous debate, the white-knuckle final tally. How many planets will we end up with? Eight? Twelve? Hundreds? Will the astronomers accept a definition that satisfies cultural expectations-but is bad science? Or will they find the courage the kill Pluto'. Brown narrates this entire story with so little rancor and so much generosity to rival astronomers that he can seem too good to be true. He even keeps his cool, and his class, while his research is plundered and his reputation attacked. It turns out you can kill a planet and still be a pretty nice guy.- The Wall Street Journal Brown's brilliant scientific memoir brings clarity and elegance to the complexities of planetary science. Brown is...



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