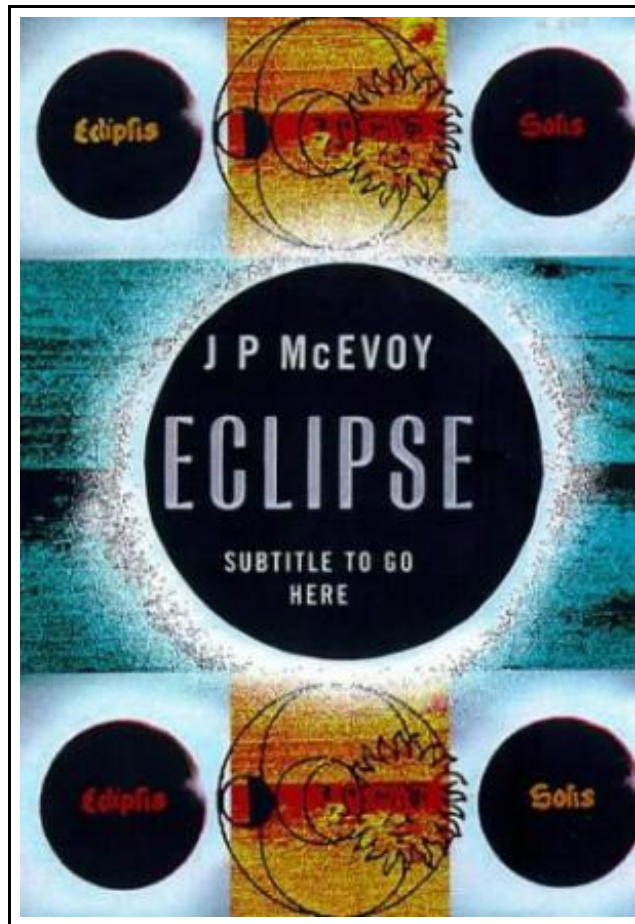


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Reviews

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(Ms. Dasia Mann)

ECLIPSE: THE SCIENCE AND HISTORY OF NATURE'S MOST SPECTACULAR PHENOMENON



Fourth Estate, London, 1999. Hard cover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. New in new dust jacket. 224p. : ill., maps, ports.; 18 cm. Includes: Illustrations, Maps, Portraits. Book Description Eclipse shows how the English Astronomer Norman Lockyer named the element Helium from the spectra of the eclipsed Sun, and how in Cambridge Arthur Eddington predicted the proof of Einstein's General Relativity from the bending of sunlight during the famous African eclipse of 1919. During late morning on 11 August, 1999 the shadow of the last total eclipse of the Millennium will cut across the Cornwall Peninsula and skirt the coast of Devon before moving on to the continent, ending its journey at sunset in the Bay of Bengal, India. Britain's next eclipse will be in September, 2090. Throughout history, mankind has exhibited a changing response to the eclipse of the sun. The ancient Mexicans believed the Sun and the Moon were quarrelling whilst the Tahitians thought the two celestial objects were making love. Today, astronomers can calculate the exact path the moon's shadow will track during the solar eclipse. As millions encamp for the brief spectacle with mylar glasses, pin-hole cameras, binoculars and telescopes, space agency satellites and mountain-top observatories study the corona, flares and the magnetosphere of the Sun as the 125 mile-wide black patch zooms along the ground at 2000 mph. About the Author JP McEvoy is a former research scientist and now a populariser of physics and astronomy. In addition to journalism and radio broadcasting he has written two guides in the popular 'Beginners' series for Icon Books which have become bestsellers on both sides of the Atlantic.



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