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The Copernican Revolution: Putting the Earth into Motion

Anthony J Millevolte Ph.D.

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Anthony J Millevolte Ph.D. : The Copernican Revolution: Putting the Earth into Motion before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Copernican Revolution: Putting the Earth into Motion:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great bookBy TedSimpsonExcellent book. Provided me with a new appreciation of science and astronomy.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent discussion of the Copernican RevolutionBy LAKupschI was privileged to receive an advanced copy of this book from the author when I took a college course for which he is the professor. This book is incredibly accessible to anyone with an interest in

learning about how human's discovered they were not the center of the universe. It begins with a historical account of how early civilizations viewed themselves and the heavens. It goes on to describe Copernicus's discovery and the aftermath it created. The book hits on all the major players following Copernicus, including a very interesting discussion of Kepler's contributions. I was especially interested in the information surrounding Galileo's discoveries and his issues with the Catholic Church. The writing flows well and the language used is not overly technical. Overall, an excellent book on a time in our history which is often overlooked or lost in our modern thinking. Honestly, the end notes alone are worth the price of the book as they offer a ton of information both related to and not related to the Copernican Revolution. I won't give anything away but there are many amazing things to be found in the end notes. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good introduction to the origins of modern astronomical thinking By James M. Lattis This is an excellent textbook written to be accessible to high school students, undergraduates, or general readers encountering this material for the first time. The author is careful to establish contexts, especially in the European world, essential to understanding the world of Copernicus, Kepler, and Galileo. Somewhat more depth is available through the extensive endnotes and, of course, the other secondary sources cited, which are generally current and authoritative. A large fraction of the text is devoted to Galileo, his astronomical work, and his relationships with the Church, but with relatively little attention to his physics. There is a short treatment of Cartesian and Newtonian physics, completing the Copernican revolution, almost as an appendix to the larger Galileo section, so a typical history of science course on this material would probably look for additional readings on physics and Newtonian science. But as an introduction to the Copernicus-Kepler-Galileo parts of the history of science, this book is a very good choice. The addition of an index would enhance its value as a textbook.

This text provides an accessible historical account of how people came to realize that we are on a big spinning ball orbiting the sun. While most of the text naturally focuses on the works of Copernicus and Galileo, several early chapters are devoted to developing a full appreciation for the earth-centered cosmos. The book begins with Babylonian and Egyptian contributions to early science and ends with a brief account of Newtonian physics and the later proofs for the Copernican System. It incorporates the latest scholarship on the episode and includes an extensive bibliography and endnotes for interested readers.

About the Author Anthony Millevolte has taught the history of science for fourteen years in the History Department at the University of Wisconsin Colleges where he is also a Professor in the Department of Chemistry.