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# LONGITUDE

The  
True Story  
of a Lone



Genius Who Solved  
the Greatest  
Scientific



Problem of His Time

DAVA SOBEL

# Longitude Dava Sobel

**Dava Sobel**



## **Longitude Dava Sobel:**

*Longitude* Dava Sobel, 2010-07-05 The dramatic human story of an epic scientific quest and of one man's forty year obsession to find a solution to the thorniest scientific dilemma of the day the longitude problem Anyone alive in the eighteenth century would have known that the longitude problem was the thorniest scientific dilemma of the day and had been for centuries Lacking the ability to measure their longitude sailors throughout the great ages of exploration had been literally lost at sea as soon as they lost sight of land Thousands of lives and the increasing fortunes of nations hung on a resolution One man John Harrison in complete opposition to the scientific community dared to imagine a mechanical solution a clock that would keep precise time at sea something no clock had ever been able to do on land *Longitude* is the dramatic human story of an epic scientific quest and of Harrison's forty year obsession with building his perfect timekeeper known today as the chronometer Full of heroism and chicanery it is also a fascinating brief history of astronomy navigation and clockmaking and opens a new window on our world *The Illustrated Longitude* Dava Sobel, William J. H. Andrewes, 1999 *Longitude* Dava Sobel's no 1 bestseller is the elegant biography of the lone genius who solved the greatest scientific problem of his times With new material from Dava Sobel and William Andrewes and illustrated with over 200 integrated photographs *The Illustrated Longitude* is the essential book for everyone who fell in love with John Harrison's story and wants to know more Anyone alive in the 18th century would have known that the longitude problem was the thorniest scientific dilemma of the day and had been for centuries Lacking the ability to measure their longitude sailors throughout the great ages of exploration had been literally lost at sea as soon as they lost sight of land The scientific establishment throughout Europe from Galileo to Sir Isaac Newton had mapped the heavens in its certain pursuit of a celestial answer In stark contrast one man John Harrison dared to imagine a mechanical solution *The Illustrated Longitude* is a fascinating history of astronomy navigation and clockmaking Lavishly produced with over 200 illustrations *The Illustrated Longitude* has much new material to help the reader learn more of John Harrison's extraordinary story and *Longitude* Dava Sobel, 1996 Sobel presents the dramatic human story of an epic scientific quest and of John Harrison's 40 year obsession with building the perfect timekeeper known today as the chronometer *Longitude* Dava Sobel, 2009-07-01 *Summary of Dava Sobel's Longitude* Everest Media, 2022-04-30T22:59:00Z Please note This is a companion version not the original book Sample Book Insights 1 The latitude and longitude lines govern the world today as they have for centuries They were first mapped out by Ptolemy in his first world atlas in AD 150 2 The difference between latitude and longitude is that the zero degree parallel of latitude is fixed by the laws of nature while the zero degree meridian of longitude shifts like the sands of time To find your latitude you only need to know the length of the day or the height of the sun above the horizon whereas to find your longitude you need to know what time it is aboard ship and the time at your home port or another place of known longitude 3 The Age of Exploration was when many sailing vessels set out to conquer or explore new territories and the wealth of nations floated

upon the oceans Still no ship had a reliable means for determining their whereabouts 4 The search for a solution to the longitude problem was like finding the Fountain of Youth the secret of perpetual motion or the formula for transforming lead into gold The British Parliament in its famous Longitude Act of 1714 set the highest bounty of all naming a prize equal to a king's ransom for a practical means of determining longitude

**Longitude** Dava Sobel, 1998 Sobel presents the dramatic human story of an epic scientific quest and of John Harrison's 40 year obsession with building the perfect timekeeper known today as the chronometer

**The Planets** Dava Sobel, 2006-10-31 Dava Sobel's *The Glass Universe* will be available from Viking in December 2016 With her bestsellers *Longitude* and *Galileo's Daughter* Dava Sobel introduced readers to her rare gift for weaving complex scientific concepts into a compelling narrative Now Sobel brings her full talents to bear on what is perhaps her most ambitious topic to date the planets of our solar system Sobel explores the origins and oddities of the planets through the lens of popular culture from astrology mythology and science fiction to art music poetry biography and history Written in her characteristically graceful prose *The Planets* is a stunningly original celebration of our solar system and offers a distinctive view of our place in the universe A New York Times extended bestseller A Featured Alternate of the Book of the Month Club History Book Club Scientific American Book Club and Natural Science Book Club Includes 11 full color illustrations by artist Lynette R Cook *The Planets* lets us fall in love with the heavens all over again The New York Times Book Review Playful lyrical a guided tour so imaginative that we forget we're being educated as we're being entertained Newsweek Sobel has outdone her extraordinary talent for keeping readers enthralled *Longitude* and *Galileo's Daughter* were exciting enough but *The Planets* has a charm of its own A splendid and enticing book San Francisco Chronicle A sublime journey Sobel's writing is as bright as the sun and its thinking as star studded as the cosmos The Atlanta Journal Constitution An incantatory serenade to the Solar System Grade A Entertainment Weekly Like Sobel's *Longitude* and *Galileo's Daughter* *The Planets* combines masterful storytelling with clear engaging explanations of the essential scientific facts Physics World

**The Planets** Dava Sobel, 2005 Explores the creation and evolution of the solar system's planets through a lens of popular culture drawing on sources from astrology science fiction the fine arts and other genres to chronicle planetary history in an accessible format

*Summary of Longitude: the True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time* Part Zoom, 2021-09-24 Have you been wishing to read *Longitude* by Dava Sobel but don't have the time to read the 300 page book or are looking for a reading companion that will help you grasp everything you are reading for easy reference If you've answered YES keep reading You've Just Discovered The Most Detailed Chapter To Chapter Summary Of *Longitude* By Dava Sobel Summary And Study Guide Of *Longitude* If you are curious to know answers to Your questions regarding *Longitude* you are in luck as this book breaks down the 300 pages into value packed 60 pages that will help you grasp the main things talked about in each chapter This book summary features Summary Story Analysis Character Analysis Themes Symbols Motifs Literary Devices Important Quotes Essay Topics Yes if you feel you need more

than a book review to decide whether to read Longitude then this Summary of Longitude is a must read Note This is an unofficial companion book to Dava Sobel's popular non-fiction book Longitude it is meant to improve your reading experience and is not the original book Scroll up and click Buy Now With 1 Click or Buy Now to start reading Longitude: a verdadeira história de um gênio solitário que resolveu o maior problema científico do seu tempo Dava Sobel, A Verdadeira História de Um Gênio Solitário Que Resolveu o Maior Problema Científico do Seu Tempo **The Glass Universe: The Hidden History of the Women Who Took the Measure of the Stars** Dava Sobel, 2016-12-06 AN OBSERVER BOOK OF THE YEAR A peerless intellectual biography The Glass Universe shines and twinkles as brightly as the stars themselves The Economist 1 New York Times bestselling author Dava Sobel returns with a captivating little known true story of women in science **Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time** Dava Sobel, 2007-11 Sobel presents the dramatic human story of an epic scientific quest and of John Harrison's 40 year obsession with building the perfect timekeeper known today as the chronometer And the Sun Stood Still Dava Sobel, 2016-03-01 Using her deep knowledge her skills as a storyteller and her imagination Dava Sobel illuminates one of history's most significant and far-reaching meetings In the spring of 1539 a young German mathematician Georg Joachim Rheticus journeyed hundreds of miles to northern Poland to meet the legendary elderly cleric and reluctant astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus Some two decades earlier Copernicus had floated the mind boggling theory that the Sun not the Earth was stationary at the center of the universe and he was rumored to have crafted a book that could prove it Though exactly what happened between them can never be known Rheticus shepherded Copernicus's great work into production and *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium* ultimately changed the course of human understanding Dava Sobel imagines their dramatic encounter and with wit and erudition gives them personality Through clever and dramatic dialogue she brings alive the months Rheticus and Copernicus spent together the one a heretical Lutheran the other a free thinking Catholic and in the process illuminates the historic tension between science and religion An introduction by Dava Sobel will set the stage putting the scenes in historical context and an afterword will describe what happened after Copernicus's book was published detailing the impact it had on science and on civilization Shaping the Day Paul Glennie, Nigel Thrift, 2009-02-12 Timekeeping is an essential activity in the modern world and we take it for granted that our lives are shaped by the hours of the day Yet what seems so ordinary today is actually the extraordinary outcome of centuries of technical innovation and circulation of ideas about time Shaping the Day is a pathbreaking study of the practice of timekeeping in England and Wales between 1300 and 1800 Drawing on many unique historical sources ranging from personal diaries to housekeeping manuals Paul Glennie and Nigel Thrift illustrate how a particular kind of common sense about time came into being and how it developed during this period Many remarkable figures make their appearance ranging from the well known such as Edmund Halley Samuel Pepys and John Harrison who solved the problem of longitude to less familiar characters including sailors

gamblers and burglars Overturning many common perceptions of the past for example that clock time and the industrial revolution were intimately related this unique historical study will engage all readers interested in how telling the time has come to dominate our way of life

**The Concept of Water** Rupert D. V. Glasgow, 2009 Water is commonly taken for granted and treated with contempt yet it is the very foundation of human existence Assuming countless forms it is deeply associated both with life and death body and soul purity and pollution creation and destruction The Concept of Water seeks to bring together the various aspects of our deeply ambiguous relationship with water providing a systematic account of its symbolic and philosophical significance This involves looking at how water has been conceived and the role it has played in everyday thought mythology literature religion philosophy politics and science both across cultures and through history R D V Glasgow was born in Sheffield and currently lives in Zaragoza His previous books are Madness Masks and Laughter 1995 Split Down the Sides 1997 and The Comedy of Mind 1999

**The Rise and Decline of England's Watchmaking Industry, 1550-1930** Alun C. Davies, 2022-04-11 This survey of the rise and decline of English watchmaking fills a gap in the historiography of British industry Clerkenwell in London was supplied with rough movements from Prescot 200 miles away in Lancashire Smaller watchmaking hubs later emerged in Coventry Liverpool and Birmingham The English industry led European watchmaking in the late eighteenth century in output and its lucrative export markets extended to the Ottoman Empire and China It also made marine chronometers the most complex of hand crafted pre industrial mechanisms crucially important to the later hegemony of Britain's navy and merchant marine Although Britain was the workshop of the world its watchmaking industry declined Why First because cheap Swiss watches were smuggled into British markets Later in the era of Free Trade they were joined by machine made watches from factories in America enabled by the successful application to watch production of the American system in Waltham Massachusetts after 1858 The Swiss watch industry adapted itself appropriately expanded and reasserted its lead in the world's markets English watchmaking did not its trajectory foreshadowed and was later followed by other once prominent British industries Clerkenwell retained its pre industrial production methods Other modernization attempts in Britain had limited success or failed

*Spaces of Enlightenment Science*, 2021-12-28 Where did we do science in the Enlightenment and why This volume brings together leading historians of Early Modern science to explore the places spaces and exchanges of Enlightenment knowledge production Adding to our understanding of the geographies of knowledge it examines the relationship between space and place institutions objects and ideas showing the ways in which the location of science really matters Contributors are Robert Iliffe Victor Boantza Margaret Carlyle Jasmine Kilburn Toppin Trevor H Levere Alice Marples Gordon McOuat Larry Stewart Marie Th baud Sorger and Simon Werrett

The Alchemy of Empire Rajani Sudan, 2016-06-01 Named Top 6 South Asia studies publications of 2016 by the British Association for South Asian Studies The Alchemy of Empire unravels the non European origins of Enlightenment science Focusing on the abject materials of empire building this study traces the genealogies of substances like mud mortar

ice and paper as well as forms of knowledge like inoculation Showing how East India Company employees deployed the paradigm of alchemy in order to make sense of the new worlds they confronted Rajani Sudan argues that the Enlightenment was born largely out of Europe's and Britain's sense of insecurity and inferiority in the early modern world Plumbing the depths of the imperial archive Sudan uncovers the history of the British Enlightenment in the literary artifacts of the long eighteenth century from the correspondence of the East India Company and the papers of the Royal Society to the poetry of Alexander Pope and the novels of Jane Austen *The Day Begins at Sunset* Barbara Freyer Stowasser, 2014-05-09 The fullest account ever written of the fascinating nexus between Islam and Time this is a major contribution to the wider history of ideas and religion Night and day and the twelve lunar months of the year are appointed times for the believing people Reading the sky for the prayers of the hour has thus for Muslims been a constant reminder of God's providence and power In her absorbing and illuminating new book the late Barbara Freyer Stowasser examines the various ways in which Islam has structured ordered and measured Time Drawing on examples from Judaism and Christianity as well as the ancient world the author shows that while systems of time facilitate the orderly function of vastly different civilizations in Islam they have always been fundamental Among other topics she discusses the Muslim lunar calendar the rise of the science of astronomy the remarkable career of al Biruni greatest authority in Muslim perceptions of Time and the impact of technologies like the astrolabe Indian numerals and paper The fullest account ever written of the fascinating nexus between Islam and Time this is a major contribution to the wider history of ideas and religion **Books, Bricks and Bytes** Stephen R. Graubard, Paul LeClerc, 2017-07-05 Libraries are experiencing a technological revolution that goes well beyond anything that has existed since the invention of printing Not surprisingly the digital library with all that it portends for the future of the book and the periodical but also with all that it implies for the kinds of information that will be collected and disseminated will necessarily preoccupy those responsible for libraries in the new century Everything from copyright access and cost to the nature of the reading public itself is now up for re-examination *Books Bricks and Bytes* brings together an extraordinary array of authors at the cutting edge of these concerns not only within the United States but experts drawn from Germany France Russia the United Kingdom Brazil and India James H Billington discusses the Library of Congress in the information age Ann S Okerson outlines two models for securing scholarly information Donald S Lamm discusses the shaky partnership of publishers and librarians in this new environment Klaus Dieter Lehmann provides a framework for maintaining the intellectual heritage of the past in a digitized future Each contributor shows in concrete detail and vivid illustration that the library as a world of holdings is increasingly valued as an incomparable place to access information In his preface to the book Stephen Graubard reminds us that whether or not one believes in the reality of the information revolution that is said to be overtaking the world it is obvious that the libraries being built today do not resemble those marble sanctuaries constructed in the Victorian age or in the early twentieth century This is a work that shows how libraries have been transformed from refuges from the external

world to places that reflect the social and intellectual values of specific societies The idea that the library is a public trust and public resource is at the center of this unusually fine collection at the cutting edge of professional and public life



## **Longitude Dava Sobel** Book Review: Unveiling the Power of Words

In a global driven by information and connectivity, the energy of words has be much more evident than ever. They have the capacity to inspire, provoke, and ignite change. Such could be the essence of the book **Longitude Dava Sobel**, a literary masterpiece that delves deep in to the significance of words and their effect on our lives. Published by a renowned author, this captivating work takes readers on a transformative journey, unraveling the secrets and potential behind every word. In this review, we will explore the book is key themes, examine its writing style, and analyze its overall affect readers.

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