



Great Comets

Robert Burnham



Great Comets:

Great Comets Robert Burnham, 2000-05-04 Spectacular and mysterious objects that come and go in the night sky comets have dwelt in our popular culture for untold ages As remnants from the formation of the Solar system they are objects of key scientific research and space missions As one of nature's most potent and dramatic dangers they pose a threat to our safety and yet they were the origin of our oceans and perhaps even life itself This beautifully illustrated book tells the story of the biggest and most awe inspiring of all comets those that have earned the title Great Robert Burnham focuses on the Great comets Hyakutake in 1996 and Hale Bopp in 1997 which gripped attention worldwide because for many they were the first comets ever seen He places these two recent comets in the context of their predecessors from past ages among them the famous Comet Halley Great Comets explains the exciting new discoveries that have come from these magnificent objects and profiles the space probes to comets due for launch in the next few years The book even takes a peek behind Hollywood's science fiction fantasies to assess the real risks humanity faces from potential impacts of both comets and asteroids For everyone interested in astronomy this exciting book reveals the secrets of the Great Comets and provides essential tools for keeping up to date with comet discoveries in the future Robert Burnham has been an amateur astronomer since the mid 1950s He has been a senior editor of *Astronomy* magazine 1986-88 and is the author of many books and CD ROMs including *Comet Hale Bopp Find and Enjoy the Great Comet* and *Comet Explorer* *Atlas of Great Comets* Ronald Stoyan, 2015-01-08 Throughout the ages comets enigmatic and beautiful wandering objects that appear for weeks or months have alternately fascinated and terrified humankind The result of five years of careful research *Atlas of Great Comets* is a generously illustrated reference on thirty of the greatest comets that have been witnessed and documented since the Middle Ages Special attention is given to the cultural and scientific impact of each appearance supported by a wealth of images from woodcuts engravings historical paintings and artifacts to a showcase of the best astronomical photos and images Following the introduction giving the broad historical context and a modern scientific interpretation the Great Comets feature in chronological order For each there is a contemporary description of its appearance along with its scientific cultural and historical significance Whether you are an armchair astronomer or a seasoned comet chaser this spectacular reference deserves a place on your shelf **The Greatest Comets in History** David A.J. Seargent, 2008-12-16 Naked eye comets are far from uncommon As a rough average one appears every 18 months or thereabouts and it is not very unusual to see more than two in a single year The record so far seems to have been 2004 with a total of five comets visible without optical aid But 2006 1970 and 1911 were not far behind with a total of four apiece Yet the majority of these pass unnoticed by the general public Most simply look like fuzzy stars with tails that are either faint or below the naked eye threshold The classical comet a bright star like object with a long flowing tail is a sight that graces our skies about once per decade on average These great comets are surely among the most beautiful objects that we can see in the heavens and it is no wonder that they created such

fear in earlier times Just what makes a comet great is not easy to define It is neither just about brightness nor only a matter of size Some comets can sport prodigiously long tails and yet not be regarded as great Others can become very bright but hardly anyone other than a handful of enthusiastic astronomers will ever see them Much depends on their separation from the Sun the intensity of the tail and so forth *The great comet, now rapidly approaching, will it strike the earth?* Great comet,1857 **The Great Comet, Now Rapidly Approaching, Will it Strike the Earth? Being an ... Inquiry Into the Probability of a Collision, Etc. [With Plates. By James Bedford?]** ,1857 **The Great Comet of 1680** Howard Robinson,1916 **Memoranda on the great Comet of 1844-5** William POLE (F.R.S.),1845 Atlas of Great Comets Ronald Stoyan,2015-01-08 A stunning reference on thirty of the greatest comets that have been witnessed and documented since the Middle Ages Supported by a wealth of images the broad historical context and modern scientific interpretation are explored for each Great Comet providing an invaluable resource for all astronomy enthusiasts The Story of the Comets Simply Told for General Readers George Frederick Chambers,1909 **COMETS!** David J. Eicher,2013-09-23 Join David J Eicher in this fast paced and entertaining journey through the history present and future of these important yet mysterious cosmic bodies From ancient times humans have been fascinated by broom stars and blazing scimitars lighting up the sky and moving against the fixed background of stars The Great Comets of our time still receive in depth attention ISON Hale Bopp Hyakutake West and others while recent spacecraft encounters offer amazing insight into the earliest days of the solar system In this guide you will discover the cutting edge science of what comets are how they behave where they reside how groups of comets are related and much more The author carefully explores the ideas relating comets and life on Earth and the danger posed by impacts He finishes with practical how to techniques tips and tricks on how to successfully observe comets and even to capture your own images of them **The New Solar System** Patricia Daniels,2009 From breathtaking full color photographs to detailed explanatory diagrams to expert essays fascinating sidebars and informative fact boxes the New Solar System is not just an easy to use solidly reliable reference but also a visually stunning invitingly browsable volume guaranteed to fire the imagination of even the most casual reader *The World of Comets* Amédée Guillemin,1877 **The Cambridge Guide to the Solar System** Kenneth R. Lang,2003-09-25 The Cambridge Guide to the Solar System provides a comprehensive and up to date description of the planets and their moons Writing at an introductory level appropriate for high school and undergraduate students Professor Lang leads the reader on a fascinating journey of exploration to the worlds beyond our home planet Earth The book begins with a short introduction to the history of planetary observation and discovery The major planets and their moons are then introduced by presenting common properties processes and themes This is followed by chapters which focus on individual planets and other solar system objects including a comprehensive treatment of the various space missions from the Apollo missions to the Moon to recent missions to Jupiter and Mars Filled with vital facts and information and lavishly illustrated in colour throughout this book will also appeal to professionals as well

as general readers with an interest in planetary science **Science** John Michels,1924 Vols for 1911 13 contain the Proceedings of the Helminothological Society of Washington ISSN 0018 0120 1st 15th meeting Comet Carl Sagan,1997-02-25 What are these graceful visitors to our skies We now know that they bring both life and death and teach us about our origins Comet begins with a breathtaking journey through space astride a comet Pulitzer Prize winning astronomer Carl Sagan author of Cosmos and Contact and writer Ann Druyan explore the origin nature and future of comets and the exotic myths and portents attached to them The authors show how comets have spurred some of the great discoveries in the history of science and raise intriguing questions about these brilliant visitors from the interstellar dark Were the fates of the dinosaurs and the origins of humans tied to the wanderings of a comet Are comets the building blocks from which worlds are formed Lavishly illustrated with photographs and specially commissioned full color paintings Comet is an enthralling adventure indispensable for anyone who has ever gazed up at the heavens and wondered why Praise for Comet Simply the best The Times of London Fascinating evocative inspiring The Washington Post Comet humanizes science A beautiful interesting book United Press International Masterful science poetry and imagination The Atlanta Journal Constitution

History of Astronomy John Lankford,2013-03-07 This Encyclopedia traces the history of the oldest science from the ancient world to the space age in over 300 entries by leading experts **A Handbook of Descriptive and Practical Astronomy: The sun, planets, and comets** George Frederick Chambers,1889 **Terrestrial and Extraterrestrial Space Dangers: Outer Space Perils, Rocket Risks and the Health Consequences of the Space Environment** Dirk C. Gibson,2015-02-24 Natural elements and cosmic phenomena in space such as asteroids comets meteors black holes and super bubbles pose a threat to the planet Earth and spacefarers in the near Earth environment Terrestrial and Extraterrestrial Space Dangers describes these dangers in the near Earth outer space environment The uniquely risky nature of rocket transportation is documented and quantified The human health consequences for vision muscles and the neurovestibular system for instance on exposure to an outer space environment are also explained in this book Readers will benefit from the extensive information offered within this text which is also accompanied with a bibliography of references This book offers a comprehensive primer for anyone interested in space travel and associated risk assessment **The Astronomy of the Bible - An Elementary Commentary on the Astronomical References of Holy Scripture** E. Walter Maunder,2018-02-02 The Astronomy of the Bible is a 1907 treatise by E Walter Maunder that explores the various astronomical references in the Bible This volume will appeal to those with an interest in ancient astrology and it is not to be missed by collectors of vintage literature of this ilk Contents The Hebrew and Astronomy The Creation The Deep The Firmament The Ordinances of the Heavens The Sun The Hebrew and Astronomy The Creation The Deep The Firmament The Ordinances of the Heavens The Sun etc Edward Walter Maunder 1851 1928 was a British astronomer most famous for his work on sunspots and the solar magnetic cycle His studies lead to the identification of the Maunder Minimum a period of

time that spanned from 1645 to 1715 Other notable works by this author The Royal Observatory 1900 Astronomy without a Telescope 1904 A and E 1910 Many vintage books such as this are becoming increasingly scarce and expensive We are republishing this volume now in an affordable modern high quality edition complete with the original text and artwork
Science News Letter ,1924

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