

Brian Greene

Quotes

*Thinking, Space, Ideas, Way, Theory, Reality, Law, Would Be, Real, Light,
Stars, Understanding, Physics, Answers, Believe, Eye, Needs, Energy, People,
Dimensions*

Sometimes attaining the deepest familiarity with a question is our best substitute for actually having the answer.

~Brian Greene

Science is the process that takes us from confusion to understanding.

~Brian Greene

When kids look up to great scientists the way they do to great musicians and actors, civilization will jump to the next level

~Brian Greene

Exploring the unknown requires tolerating uncertainty.

~Brian Greene

We're on this planet for the briefest of moments in cosmic terms, and I want to spend that time thinking about what I consider the deepest questions.

~Brian Greene

Intelligence is the ability to take in information from the world and to find patterns in that information that allow you to organize your perceptions and understand the external world.

~Brian Greene

I was holding [my four-year-old daughter] and I said, 'Sophia, I love you more than anything in the universe.' And she turned to me and said, 'Daddy, universe or multiverse?'

~Brian Greene

Free will is the sensation of making a choice. The sensation is real, but the choice seems illusory. Laws of physics determine the future.

~Brian Greene

All you are is a bag of particles acting out the laws of physics. That to

me is pretty clear.

~Brian Greene

Physics grapples with the largest questions the universe presents. Where did the totality of reality come from? Did time have a beginning?

~Brian Greene

Sometimes nature guards her secrets with the unbreakable grip of physical law. Sometimes the true nature of reality beckons from just beyond the horizon.

~Brian Greene

If the theory turns out to be right, that will be tremendously thick and tasty icing on the cake.

~Brian Greene

Nature's patterns sometimes reflect two intertwined features: fundamental physical laws and environmental influences. It's nature's version of nature versus nurture.

~Brian Greene

Physicists are more like avant-garde composers, willing to bend traditional rules... Mathematicians are more like classical composers.

~Brian Greene

String theory envisions a multiverse in which our universe is one slice of bread in a big cosmic loaf. The other slices would be displaced from ours in some extra dimension of space.

~Brian Greene

No matter how hard you try to teach your cat general relativity, you're going to fail.

~Brian Greene

Science is the greatest of all adventure stories, one that's been unfolding for thousands of years as we have sought to understand ourselves and our surroundings.

~Brian Greene

The real question is whether all your pondering and analyses will convince you that life is worth living. That's what it all comes down to.

~Brian Greene

Physicists have come to realize that mathematics, when used with sufficient care, is a proven pathway to truth.

~Brian Greene

The bottom line is that time travel is allowed by the laws of physics.

~Brian Greene

...things are the way they are in our universe because if they weren't, we wouldn't be here to notice.

~Brian Greene

Far from being accidental details, the properties of nature's basic building blocks are deeply entwined with the fabric of space and time.

~Brian Greene

When we benefit from CT scanners, M.R.I. devices, pacemakers and arterial stents, we can immediately appreciate how science affects the quality of our lives.

~Brian Greene

The boldness of asking deep questions may require unforeseen flexibility if we are to accept the answers.

~Brian Greene

Gravity is matter's sugar daddy.

~Brian Greene

The pinpoint of starlight we see with the naked eye are photons that have been streaming toward us for a few years or a few thousand.

~Brian Greene

Einstein's theory of relativity does a fantastic job for explaining big things. Quantum mechanics is fantastic for the other end of the spectrum - for small things.

~Brian Greene

There's no way that scientists can ever rule out religion, or even have anything significant to say about the abstract idea of a divine creator.

~Brian Greene

Cosmology is among the oldest subjects to captivate our species. And it's no wonder. We're storytellers, and what could be more grand than the story of creation?

~Brian Greene

Our eyes only see the big dimensions, but beyond those there are others that escape detection because they are so small.

~Brian Greene

But, as Einstein once said, "For we convinced physicists, the distinction between past, present, and future is only an illusion, however persistent."

~Brian Greene

How can a speck of a universe be physically identical to the great expanse we view in the heavens above?

~Brian Greene

A unified theory would put us at the doorstep of a vast universe of

things that we could finally explore with precision.

~Brian Greene

Experimental evidence is the final arbiter of right and wrong.

~Brian Greene

We might be the holographic image of a two-dimensional structure.

~Brian Greene

My best teachers were not the ones who knew all the answers, but those who were deeply excited by questions they couldn't answer.

~Brian Greene

When I give this talk to a physics audience, I remove the quotes from my 'Theorem'.

~Brian Greene

A watch worn by a particle of light would not tick at all. Light realizes the dreams of Ponce de Leon and the cosmetics industry: it doesn't age.

~Brian Greene

...quantum mechanicsâ€™the physics of our worldâ€™requires that you hold such pedestrian complaints in abeyance.

~Brian Greene

I may be a Jewish scientist, but I would be tickled silly if one day I were reincarnated as a Baptist preacher.

~Brian Greene

We can certainly go further than cats, but why should it be that our brains are somehow so suited to the universe that our brains will be able to understand the deepest workings?

~Brian Greene

There's a picture of my dorm room in the college yearbook as the most messy, most disgusting room on the Harvard campus, where I was an undergraduate.

~Brian Greene

When you know the answer you want, it is often all too easy to figure out a way of getting it.

~Brian Greene

I've seen children's eyes light up when I tell them about black holes and the Big Bang.

~Brian Greene

I'd say many features of string theory don't mesh with what we observe in everyday life.

~Brian Greene

I enjoy reading blogs, but am not interested in having my spurious thoughts out there.

~Brian Greene

Most scientists like to operate in the context of economy. If you don't need an explanatory principle, don't invoke it.

~Brian Greene

I can assure you that no string theorist would be interested in working on string theory if it were somehow permanently beyond testability. That would no longer be doing science.

~Brian Greene

For most people, the major hurdle in grasping modern insights into the nature of the universe is that these developments are usually phrased using mathematics.

~Brian Greene

The number of e-mails and letters that I get from choreographers, from sculptors, from composers who are being inspired by science is huge.

~Brian Greene

The idea that there could be other universes out there is really one that stretches the mind in a great way.

~Brian Greene

Over the centuries, monumental upheavals in science have emerged time and again from following the leads set out by mathematics.

~Brian Greene

I've spent something like 17 years working on a theory for which there is essentially no direct experimental support.

~Brian Greene

We are living through a remarkably privileged era when certain deep truths about the cosmos are still within reach of the human spirit of exploration.

~Brian Greene

You should never be surprised by or feel the need to explain why any physical system is in a high entropy state.

~Brian Greene

I've had various experiences where I've been called by Hollywood studios to look at a script or comment on various scientific ideas that they're trying to inject into a story.

~Brian Greene

I would say in one sentence my goal is to at least be part of the journey to find the unified theory that Einstein himself was really the first to look for.

~Brian Greene

Falsifiability for a theory is great, but a theory can still be respectable even if it is not falsifiable, as long as it is verifiable.

~Brian Greene

I can't stand clutter. I can't stand piles of stuff. And whenever I see it, I basically just throw the stuff away.

~Brian Greene

Energy is the ultimate convertible currency.

~Brian Greene

To tell you the truth, I've never met anybody who can envision more than three dimensions. There are some who claim they can, and maybe they can; it's hard to say.

~Brian Greene

Assessing existence while failing to embrace the insights of modern physics would be like wrestling in the dark with an unknown opponent.

~Brian Greene

When general relativity was first put forward in 1915, the math was very unfamiliar to most physicists. Now we teach general relativity to advanced high school students.

~Brian Greene

The fact that I don't have any particular need for religion doesn't mean that I have a need to cast religion aside the way some of my colleagues do.

~Brian Greene

I like 'The Simpsons' quite a lot. I love the irreverent character of the whole show. It's great.

~Brian Greene

For me it's been very exciting to contribute to the public's understanding of how rich and wondrous science is.

~Brian Greene

My emotional investment is in finding truth. If string theory is wrong, I'd like to have known that yesterday. But if we can show it today or tomorrow, fantastic.

~Brian Greene

One of the wonders of science is that it is completely universal. It crosses national boundaries with total ease.

~Brian Greene

Art makes us human, music makes us human, and I deeply feel that science makes us human.

~Brian Greene

I believe we owe our young an education that captures the exhilarating drama of science.

~Brian Greene

Understanding requires insight. Insight must be anchored.

~Brian Greene

It's hard to teach passionately about something that you don't have a passion for.

~Brian Greene

I believe the process of going from confusion to understanding is a precious, even emotional, experience that can be the foundation of self-confidence.

~Brian Greene

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