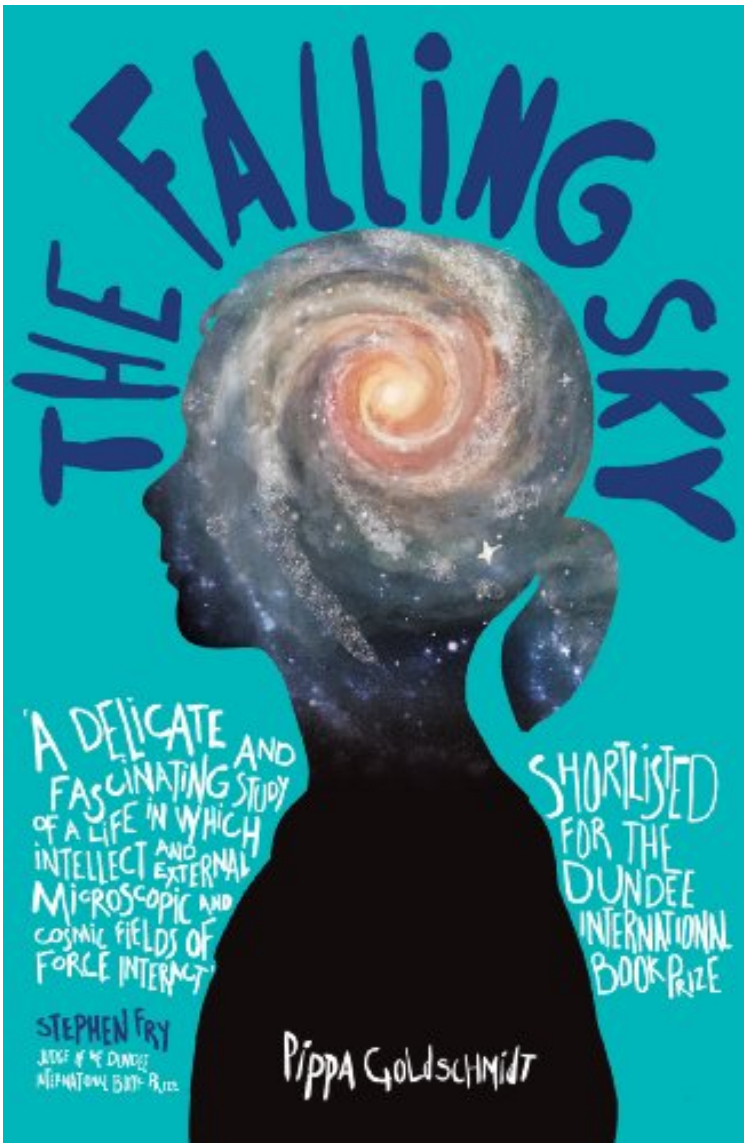


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The Falling Sky



Par Pippa Goldschmidt
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Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurA blackly comic campus satire combined with a heart-breaking family mystery, The Falling Sky brilliantly mixes fiction and astronomy into a fascinating, compelling and moving narrative.

Jeanette is a young, solitary post-doctoral researcher who has dedicated her life to studying astronomy.

Struggling to compete in a prestigious university department dominated by egos and incompetents, and caught in a cycle of brief and unsatisfying affairs, she travels to a mountain-top observatory in Chile to focus on her research. There Jeanette stumbles upon evidence that will challenge the fundamentals of the universe, drawing her into conflict with her colleagues and the scientific establishment, but also casting her back to the tragic loss that defined her childhood. As the implications of her discovery gather momentum, and her

relationships spiral out of control, Jeanette's own grip on reality is threatened, finally forcing her to confront the hidden past. Pippa Goldschmidt's bittersweet debut novel blends black comedy, heart-breaking tragedy and fascinatingly accessible science, in this intricate and beautiful examination of one woman's disintegration and journey to redemption.

Revue de presse 'A delicate and fascinating study of a life in which intellect and external microscopic and cosmic fields of force interact' --Stephen Fry, Judge of the 2012 Dundee International Book Prize 'A fine debut from a writer with considerable scientific knowledge and experience, in addition to her abundant literary talent... a touching picture of a young woman trying to find her place in the universe.' --Andrew Crumey, author of *MrMee*, *Mobius Dick* and *Sputnik Caledonia* 'This novel is brilliant on several levels. Beautifully written, with many flashes of dark humour, it is fascinatingly informative regarding what it is like to be a research scientist (in a world the author, a former astronomer, knows well), and is also a terrific portrayal of one woman's struggle with past tragedy and present difficulties.' --The Daily Mail

Incompleteness and the inexplicable nature of beauty, love, and loss are at the heart of this story. Goldschmidt is particularly successful at depicting the casualness with which lovers hurt each other. -- Ruth Johnston, *The List*

Pippa Goldschmidt's *The Falling Sky* is that rare thing: a literary novel that gets under the hood of science as a social enterprise, done by real and fallible people... a triumph of scientific fiction' --Alastair Reynolds, *Arc* 'It's a complex portrait, handsomely done: proof if proof be needed that astronomers are people, too.' --The New Scientist

As a child, Jeanette searched for evidence of her dead sister in the night sky. As an adult postdoctoral researcher in astronomy at Edinburgh University, she remains fascinated by the stars as well as forever emotionally scarred by the loss that defined her solitary childhood. Her professional life in a prestigious university department riven with petty rivalries and political machinations is testing; her personal life is less than satisfactory too - brief affairs with other women that go nowhere. Then, on a mountain-top observatory in Chile, she stumbles upon what appears to be evidence which could unseat that most fundamental theory of the universe - the Big Bang. As the implications of this discovery send shock waves through the horrified and hostile scientific establishment, both her professional and personal relationships unravel. Jeanette starts to disintegrate mentally as she is finally forced to confront some home truths. This novel is brilliant on several levels. Beautifully written, with many flashes of dark humour, it is fascinatingly informative regarding what it is like to be a research scientist (in a world the author, a former astronomer, knows well), and is also a terrific portrayal of one woman's struggle with past tragedy and present difficulties. --The Daily Mail

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