

T-Minus: The Race to the Moon

by Jim Ottaviani, Zander Cannon and Kevin Cannon

Everybody always talked about the moon, but nobody ever did anything about it.

That is, until a Frenchman named Jules Verne wrote a science fiction novel called *From the Earth to the Moon* in 1865 and did the math that showed how to get there, a Russian named Konstantin Tsiolkovsky checked Verne's figures and decided that liquid-fueled multistage rockets were the way to go, and an American named Robert Goddard started building and flying 'em.

T-Minus tells you what happens when you take two global superpowers, dozens of daring pilots, thousands of engineers and scientists, and then point them at the night sky and say "Go!?" So join the whole world as it

counts down to sending the first men to the moon, and discover the story of the people who made it happen, both in the rockets and behind the scenes.

About the storytellers: Cartoonists Zander Cannon and Kevin Cannon have been together as a studio since 2004. Their work includes Bone Sharps, Cowboys, and Thunder Lizards, *The Stuff of Life* (Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 2008), and *Top Ten* (DC Comics, 2008). They live and work in Minneapolis, Minnesota and claim to be card-carrying members of the International Cartoonist Conspiracy.

In addition to being the author of the *New York Times* #1 Bestseller <u>Feynman</u>, all of <u>Jim Ottaviani</u>'s books have been nominated for multiple awards, including Eisners & ALA Popular Paperback of the Year. They also receive critical praise in publications ranging (widely!) from *The New York Review of Books* to *The Comics Journal* to *Physics World* to *Entertainment Weekly* to *Discover Magazine*.

Press

"*T-Minus* captures the optimism and courage of both countries' space pioneers, making it an ideal entry point for new readers intrigued by the topic. Space know-it-alls will learn something, too." -- *The New York Times*

"[F]ast paced, informative... Intended for young adults, this title was incredibly satisfying to me, an adult-adult (which is as it should be)." -- Cory Doctorow, via Boing Boing Boing

...and elsewhere: An Editor's Choice of the New York Times | A finalist for the 2009 Emme Junior Award for Astronautical Literature from the American Astronautical Society | A 2010 Texas Maverick Graphic Novels Reading List selection | A YALSA "Great Graphic Novel for Teens" | Big Shiny Robot | Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books | Unshelved | Bubblews | The folks at Goodreads | Robot 6! Interview! | emilyreads: a review haiku (!) | Interview at Chasing Ray | IEEE Spectrum | Bookslut: Fly Me to the Moon | MSNBC: Apollo in Sharper Focus | Zander and Kevin interviewed on KFAI | Todd Klein | Book Page | Examiner.com | Savannah Morning News | Comics Reporter Sunday Interview | Innocent Bystander review | Kevin Cannon interview | a selection of the Junior Library Guild | Out of the Cradle: Chronicles of the New Space Age | The X-Librarian | Marty Devine's Mad World | an interview at Yet Another Comics Blog | an interview with Jim at Newsarama | Zander and Kevin's interview at Newsarama | an interview at Pulse News

Read an excerpt from the book.

T-Minus: The Race to the Moon

Extra! Web Exclusives

Bibliography: Want to know what we read and consulted when creating the book...so you can read more yourself? Then download the full bibliography!

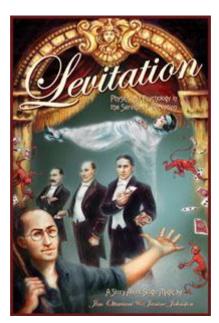
Glossary: If you have the nifty (but limited!) hardcover edition, you'll want to grab the <u>glossary</u> here. Heck, you might want it even if you have the softcover edition, since it'll save you flipping back and forth.

For teachers: We've prepared a <u>study guide (pdf)</u> to assist you in using the book in your classroom. If you have suggestions for improvements or would like to share your ideas, please <u>let us know</u>.

For readers: You can see an <u>additional excerpt from T-Minus</u> and other books from Aladdin, via their sampler. (I particularly like the looks of Delsante and Vera Martinez's *Before They Were Famous: Babe Ruth.*)

Bonus Fact: Friend and science fiction expert <u>Eric Rabkin</u> pointed out that *Frau im Mond* was more than just an interesting footnote to von Braun's career -- it's also the first place anyone used a "T-Minus 10...9..." countdown for a rocket launch. A missed opportunity by me, no doubt, and I hope to add it to the *Frau* glossary entry at some point!

Mistakes(!): Yes, there is (at least) one... Jack Shafer, in his excellent review in the *New York Times Review of Books*, noted that in the margin of page 53 I have Friendship 7 launching in 1961. We got it right with the "T-Minus 7 years, 5 months" caption on the same page, but somehow I messed up in the lower right corner. It should say "20 Feb 1962" down there. So...apologies to John Glenn! If you find others, please let me know. I'll blush, and post it here, and try and get it corrected in future printings.



Levitation: Physics and Psychology in the Service of Deception

by Jim Ottaviani and Janine Johnston

Hypnotic gestures. Fancy clothes. Lovely assistants.

These things may make the magician, but science makes the magic.

Levitation tells the amazing true story of the most dazzling illusion ever performed on stage, and features a cast of characters that seems too good to be true -- The Scientist: John Neville Maskelyne, the oh-so-proper British magician and the trick's inventor. The American: Harry Kellar couldn't buy the illusion, so he found another way to get it. The Inventor: Guy Jarrett, the rough-and-tumble engineer who perfected the illusion.

The Heir: Howard Thurston, the handsome and charismatic performer who inherited the act from Kellar and then, according to Kellar, ruined it.

Or did he? Join us on stage and behind it and learn not only how to defy gravity, but why people believed you could.

Levitation and its companion release <u>Wire Mothers: Harry Harlow and the Science of Love</u> are the first in a series of books on the science of the unscientific from G.T. Labs.

<u>Janine Johnston</u> began her comics career over 10 years ago as an artist for *Star Wars: Tales of the Jedi*. She went on to adapt and paint for the Elfquest series "Blood of Ten Chiefs" and currently works as a painter, muralist, and on numerous projects in both the comics and gaming industry.

Press

"There's a surprising amount of scientific knowledge needed to make impressive illusions work, and this book shows you how some of them accomplish their tricks. A good show requires experimentation ahead of time to make improvements and work out the bugs." - *Comics Worth Reading*

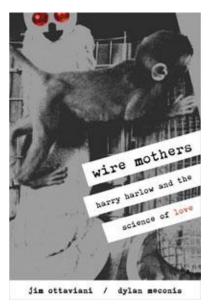
...and elsewhere: No Flying No Tights | Washington Post Express | Publishers Weekly | Panels and Pixels | Eye on Comics | an interview at The Comics Reporter | an interview at Newsarama | an interview at Comic Book Resources

Preview

Read an excerpt from the book.

For teachers: We've prepared a <u>study guide (pdf)</u> to assist you in using the book in your classroom. If you have suggestions for improvements or would like to share your ideas, please <u>let us know</u>.





Wire Mothers: Harry Harlow and the Science of Love

by Jim Ottaviani and Dylan Meconis

"Never hug and kiss them, never let them sit on your lap. ... The end result is a happy child. Free as air, because he has mastered the stupidly simple demands society makes upon him."

Psychologists know best, of course, and in the 1950s they warned parents about the dangers of too much love. Besides, what was 'love' anyway? Just a convenient name for children seeking food and adults seeking sex. It took an outsider scientist to challenge this. When Harry Harlow began his experiments on mother love he was more than just outside the mainstream, though. He was a deeply unhappy man who knew in his gut the truth about what love -- and its absence -- meant, and set about to prove it. His experiments and results shocked the world.

<u>Dylan Meconis</u> was an original contributor to the groundbreaking *Flight* series and a nominee for the Friends of Lulu Kim Yale award. She is also a launch contributor to Girlamatic, a member of the Pants Press collective and Periscope Studio, and has been blogged just about everywhere.

Press

"This nonfiction graphic novel retelling psychologist Harry Harlow's famous experiments is as disturbing as it is excellent." - *Publishers Weekly*

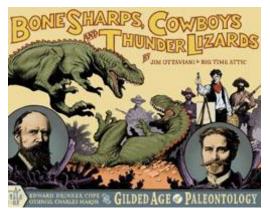
...and elsewhere: <u>Washington Post Express</u> | <u>The Los Angeles Times</u> (may require a subscription) | <u>Spacecast</u> | <u>The Library Journal</u> | <u>Las Vegas Weekly</u> | <u>Panels and Pixels</u> | <u>Bookslut</u> | <u>Comics Worth Reading</u> | <u>an interview at The Comics Reporter</u> | <u>an interview at Newsarama</u> | <u>an interview at Comic Book Resources</u>

Preview

Read an excerpt from the book.

Extra! Web Exclusives

A study guide (pdf) for teachers, to assist you in using the book in your classroom.



Bone Sharps, Cowboys, and Thunder Lizards

by Jim Ottaviani and Big Time Attic

Guest Starring The World-Renowned Artist Charles R. Knight, Chief Red Cloud & Hundreds of His Indian Braves, the Gun-Totin' & Gamblin' Professor John Bell Hatcher, Colossal & Stupefying Dinosauria of the New World, and Featuring Special Appearances by The Cardiff Giant, P.T. Barnum, Buffalo Bill Cody, Ulysses S. Grant, Alexander Graham Bell, and A Plentiful Supporting Cast of Rogues & Gallants from The Eastern Scientific Establishment and The Old West.

250,000,003 years in the making...

From the early Triassic and the first dinosaurs to today, the new golden age of comics and original graphic novels, the world has never seen a book like this.

Bone Sharps, Cowboys, and Thunder Lizards tells the story of Edward Drinker Cope and Othniel Charles Marsh, two scientists who found and fought for the fossil treasures discovered in the American West in the late 1800s. It also introduces the young artist Charles R. Knight who almost single-handedly brought dinosaurs back to life for an awestruck public.

Put them together and you get a rich blend of history, adventure, science, and art. *Bone Sharps, Cowboys, and Thunder Lizards* is a tale of greed and imagination, discovery and loss. And, not that it matters all that much, but just about everything you'll read in it is true!

Bone Sharps, Cowboys, and Thunder Lizards has a companion book, <u>Charles R. Knight: Autobiography of an Artist</u>, in which you can learn more about Knight's life and work. [Warning: Though it's beautifully illustrated by Mark Schultz, it's not comics!]

About the storytellers: Fresh from award winning work on *Top Ten* and *Smax from America's Best Comics*, <u>Big Time Attic's</u> Zander Cannon and his colleagues Shad Petosky and Kevin Cannon bring their considerable talents to bear on this unique story. The presentation -- rich sepia tones on antiqued paper and a cover illustration by renowned dinosaur artist Mark Schultz -- complements the story and makes the book a handsome blend of the old and the new.

Press

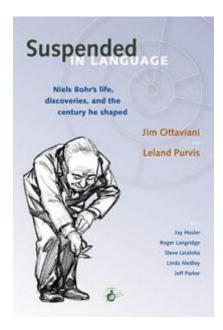
"Ottaviani does it again with *Bone Sharps*, which tells the true story of the Bone War fought in the Old West as scientists Edward Cope and O.C. Marsh find and struggle for control of the continent's rich vein of dinosaur fossils. Their rivalry and competition for scientific influence and fame makes for great drama" - *Variety*

...and elsewhere: School Library Journal | KPBS interview on "These Days" | NPR | VOYA | Todd Klein | Fast Forward | Comicbookshelf.com | Newsarama | Bookslut | Entertainment Weekly | an interview with Publishers Weekly | Comics Worth Reading | Comic World News 2005 Top 10 | Newsarama's Best of 2005 | CHUD.com | Stephen Bissette's Myrant | an interview with Big Time Attic | PopCultureShock | Comic World News | RevolutionSF | Prehistoric Times | An interview at CBR | An interview at Broken Frontier | Silver Bullet Comics

Read an excerpt from the book. And, there's this... https://youtu.be/nIer3sQsSPQ

A study guide (pdf) for teachers.





Suspended in Language

by Jim Ottaviani and Lionel Purvis

DANISH, FRENCH & GERMAN RIGHTS AVAILABLE

"Not often in life has a human being caused me such joy by his mere presenceas you did." - Albert Einstein, in a 1920 letter to Bohr

When you think about atoms, chances are you think of Niels Bohr's model. But beyond that model (which he soon left behind...since it's wrong!) his life and discoveries blazed the trail from a world without cars or radio, much less airplanes and television, to one of space travel and the World Wide Web.

Einstein looked up to him, the Nazis wanted to kidnap him, his institute in Copenhagen hosted just about every Nobel prize winner in physics you can name (and then some), and Winston Churchill considered him by far the most dangerous man on the Manhattan Project. His friends and enemies agreed: Niels Bohr was much more than the father of quantum mechanics -- he was one of the most important figures of the

twentieth century. Suspended in Language tells his story.

About the storytellers: Suspended in Language features art by award-winning artist Leland Purvis, a member of the ACT-I-VATE group and Deep Six. He's the author of the acclaimed series Vox and Pubo. It also features footnotes illustrated by Jay Hosler (Clan Apis, The Sandwalk Adventures), Roger Langridge (Fred the Clown), Steve Leialoha (Fables), Linda Medley (Castle Waiting), and Jeff Parker (The Interman, Agents of Atlas, and many others).

Press

"Writer Jim Ottaviani and illustrator Leland Purvis relate [Bohr's] adventures with rich visual flair, taking the reader alongside Bohr into outer space, inside the atom, or to a raucous Belgian physics conference. More surprising is the abundant wit and warmth of the book" - <u>Discover</u>

...and elsewhere: <u>Katie's Korner (for schools and libraries)</u> | <u>Newsarama: It Came From the NYPL</u> | <u>Book Loons</u> | <u>Comics Worth Reading</u> | <u>First Monday</u> | <u>NPR's Morning Edition</u> | <u>TIME.comix</u> | <u>RadioCitta'Fujiko</u>, on the Italian edition of <u>Suspended</u> (may require additional plug-ins, including your Italian-to-English brain insert if you don't speak the mother tongue) | <u>Howling Curmudgeons</u> | <u>Milkbreath and Me</u> | <u>Comic World News</u>

Read the first chapter.

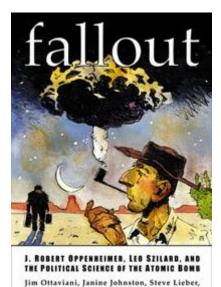
Extra! Web Exclusives

On page 163 of the book we promise you the chance to read <u>Quantum Entanglement</u>, <u>Spooky Action at a Distance</u>, <u>Teleportation</u>, <u>and You</u>, so here (or rather, there, a few words back and at the link) it is!

You can also get a full color poster teaching you how to teleport today.

Download the complete bibliography!

A study guide for teachers.



Vince Locke, Bernie Mireault, and Jeff Parker

Fallout

by Jim Ottaviani, Janie Johnston, Steve Lieber, Vince Locke, Bernie Mireault, and Jeff Parker

So, you've always wanted to learn how to build an atomic bomb? You're in luck: Jim Ottaviani is not only a comics writer...he also has a master's degree in nuclear engineering! But even though it's not a complete do-it-yourself manual (assembly required, and plutonium is definitely NOT included), *Fallout* will bring you up to speed on the science and politics of the first nuclear gadgets.

On a more serious note, like the other books by G.T. Labs, the focus of *Fallout* is on the scientists themselves -- in particular J. Robert Oppenheimer and Leo Szilard. Their stories, starting in pre-WWII Europe and continuing through to the height of the Cold War, offer a cautionary tale about the uneasy alliance between the military, the government, and the beginnings of "big science."

About the storytellers: Fallout features art by award winning artists Janine Johnston (Poison Elves), Steve Lieber (Whiteout, Batman), Vince Locke (Deadworld, Sandman), Bernie Mireault (Mackenzie Queen, The Jam, Grendel Tales), Jeff Parker (Interman, Robin) with Chris Kemple, Eddy Newell, and a painted cover by noted Studio artist Jeffrey Jones.

Press

"Ottaviani's nonfiction graphic novel about the two most famous 'dissident' creators of the atom bomb meets and in sophistication exceeds the standards set by Art Spiegelman's *Maus* (1991-92), Harvey Pekar and Joyce Brabner's *Our Cancer Year* (1994), and Rick Geary's series of nineteenth-century true-crime stories." - *Booklist*, Jan 1/Jan 15, 2002; Vol. 98, Iss. 9/10; pg. 801.

...and elsewhere: <u>Comics Worth Reading | Ad Astra Comics | Comic Book Galaxy | Discover | Grayhaven | Sequential Tart | Diamond's Bookshelf | Artbomb.net</u>

Preview

Read the first chapter.

Extra! Web Exclusives

Download the <u>notes and references</u> if you don't want to flip back and forth while reading.

To see prelims and color paintings, head on over to the *Fallout* extras page.

A study guide for teachers



Dignifying Science

by Jim Ottaviani, Donna Barr, Mary Fleener, Stephanie Gladden, Roberta Gregory, Lea Hernandez, Carla Speed McNeil, Linda Medley, Jen Sorensen, Anne Timmons

Dignifying Science is the second in a series of books done in comics form telling true stories about scientists. This book features famous women scientists including Marie Curie, mathematician Emmy Noether, physicist Lise Meitner, DNA researcher Rosalind Franklin, biologist Barbara McClintock, primatologist Birute Galdikas, and Hedy Lamarr. Yes, that Hedy Lamarr...her story will surprise you!

The stories offer a human context often missing when we learn about the discoveries attached to these scientists' names. Readers, drawn in by the compelling anecdotes, will discover intriguing characters. End notes and references will lead them to further information on the scientists they've read about.

About the storytellers: With art by fan favorites such as <u>Donna Barr</u>, Mary Fleener, Stephanie Gladden, <u>Roberta Gregory</u>, <u>Lea Hernandez</u>, <u>Carla Speed McNeil</u>, <u>Linda Medley</u>, <u>Jen Sorensen</u>, <u>Anne Timmons</u> and comics legends Ramona Fradon and Marie Severin, this handsome trade paperback will surely please old and new readers alike.

Press

"Rosalind Franklin's story is one of many great and unsung women scientists' stories recounted in the brilliant, Eisner-nominated comic book *Dignifying Science...*" - Cory Doctorow via <u>Boing Boing: A Directory of Wonderful Things</u>

...and elsewhere: Online Masters | Newsarama: It Came from the NYPL | Sequential Tart's Public Library recommendations | VOYA | USA Today | Comics Worth Reading | NPR's Morning Edition | CBS, The Early Show | The Washington Post, on classroom use | Physics World | Sequential Tart | Discover | Another recommendation from Sequential Tart | An interview from The Pulse

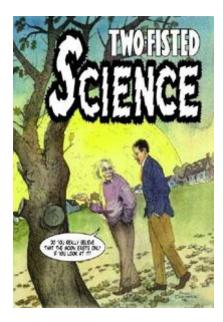
Preview

Read an excerpt from the Rosalind Franklin story.

Extra! Web Exclusives

Download the <u>notes and references</u> if you don't want to flip back and forth while reading.

A study guide for teachers.



Two-Fisted Science

by Jim Ottaviani, : Mark Badger, Donna Barr, Sean Bieri, Paul Chadwick, Gene Colan, Guy Davis, Colleen Doran, David Lasky, Steve Lieber, Lin Lucas, Bernie Mireault, Scott Roberts, Scott Saavedra, and Rob Walton

Two-Fisted Science, a Xeric Award-winning and Eisner nominated original trade paperback, features true stories from the history of science. Some are serious, some are humorous, and most are a bit of both. Scientists highlighted include physicists Richard Feynman, Galileo, Niels Bohr, and Werner Heisenberg, but you'll find a cosmologist and some mathematicians inside as well.

About the storytellers: <u>Mark Badger</u> (who has created an <u>animated version of our "Feynman at CERN" story!)</u>, <u>Donna Barr</u>, <u>Sean Bieri</u>, <u>Paul Chadwick</u>, <u>Gene Colan</u>, <u>Guy Davis</u>, <u>Colleen Doran</u>, David Lasky, <u>Steve Lieber</u>, Lin Lucas, Bernie Mireault, Scott Roberts, Scott Saavedra, and Rob Walton.

Press

"With notes, references and a bibliography, the book provides an unusual but intelligent introduction to some of the most famous figures in physics." - Physics World

...and elsewhere: MAKE Magazine | CBS, The Early Show | Comics Worth Reading | Weekly Wire | Friends of Tuva newsletter | Cold Cut | Sequential Tart

Preview

Read the first chapter of the Richard Feynman "Safecracker" story.

Extra! Web Exclusives

A study guide for teachers.



Jim Ottaviani is the author of ten (and counting) graphic novels about scientists:

- Two-Fisted Science, a collection of short stories about physicists;
- Dignifying Science, featuring longer stories about women scientists;
- *Fallout*, which traces the path to (and beyond) the atomic bomb via J. Robert Oppenheimer's and Leo Szilard's involvement with the science and politics of nuclear weapons;
- Suspended in Language, a biography of Niels Bohr;
- Bone Sharps, Cowboys, and Thunder Lizards, a tale of the gilded age of paleontology featuring scientists Edward Drinker Cope and Othniel Charles Marsh and the artist Charles R. Knight;
- Wire Mothers, on how Harry Harlow convinced the world that love exists, that it's learned, and that it matters:
- Levitation about the stage magic (and science behind it) of John Neville Maskelyne, Harry Kellar, and Howard Thurston:
- *T-Minus: The Race to the Moon*, about the space race between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, and the engineers and scientists who got the cosmonauts off our planet and astronauts onto the moon, and;
- Feynman, about the Nobel-prize winning physicist, bongo-playing, artist and best-selling author Richard Feynman.
- Primates tells the story of the groundbreaking work of Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Biruté Galdikas.
- The Imitation Game, a book about mathematician, computer scientist, and code-breaker Alan Turing.

He also edited and annotated *Charles R. Knight: Autobiography of an Artist*, which featured contributions by Ray Bradbury and notable scientists such as Ian Tattersall, as well as an introduction by William Stout and illustrations by Mark Schultz.

All of his books have received considerable critical acclaim and many have been nominated for awards, including the comics industry's premier award, the Eisner. In addition, *Two-Fisted Science* received a grant from the Xeric Foundation to support its publication. *Dignifying Science* was an American Library Association finalist for Best Popular Paperback in 2002. *Fallout* was one of *Booklist*'s Top Ten graphic novels for 2002, and *Suspended in Language* was noted as one of the year's best by the *Comics Journal. Bone Sharps, Cowboys, and Thunder Lizards* was nominated for the ALA's "Great Graphic Novels for Teens" list and *T-Minus* was a selection of the Junior Library Guild, a Texas Library Association "Maverick Graphic Novel," an ALA "Great Graphic Novel for Teens" and a *New York Times* "Editor's Choice" book. *Feynman* debuted at #1, and spent 12 more weeks, on the *New York Times* bestseller list for graphic novels. It also received critical acclaim from the *New York Review of Books*, Oprah.com, *Washington Post*, and others, and was a 2012 AAAS Science Books and Film Prize Finalist. *Primates* and *The Imitation Game* also months on the *NYT* bestseller list. Translations of his work include Chinese, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and more.

In all, his graphic novels on science probably comprise the only body of work to have received positive reviews in both *Nature* and *Vampirella Magazine*...and everything in between, from *The Comics Journal* to *Discover* to *Entertainment Weekly* to *Physics World* to *Variety* to *Time*. His books have been featured on NPR, in television, and in movies, and are used in middle schools, high schools, and colleges.

Jim came to comics via careers in nuclear engineering and librarianship (with a bachelor's and master's degree in nuclear engineering, and a master's degree in information and library science backing those up). He is a published author in both of those fields as well. When he's not writing or running trails, Jim also gives talks on comics and science in venues ranging from public libraries in small Michigan towns to bookstores around the country to universities in Canada and the U.S. ... and has traveled all the way to the Nobel Museum in Stockholm to talk about comics. (Yes, he knows he's been very lucky!)

Find out more via his site at www.gt-labs.com, on Twitter at @gtlabsrat, and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/jim.ottaviani.