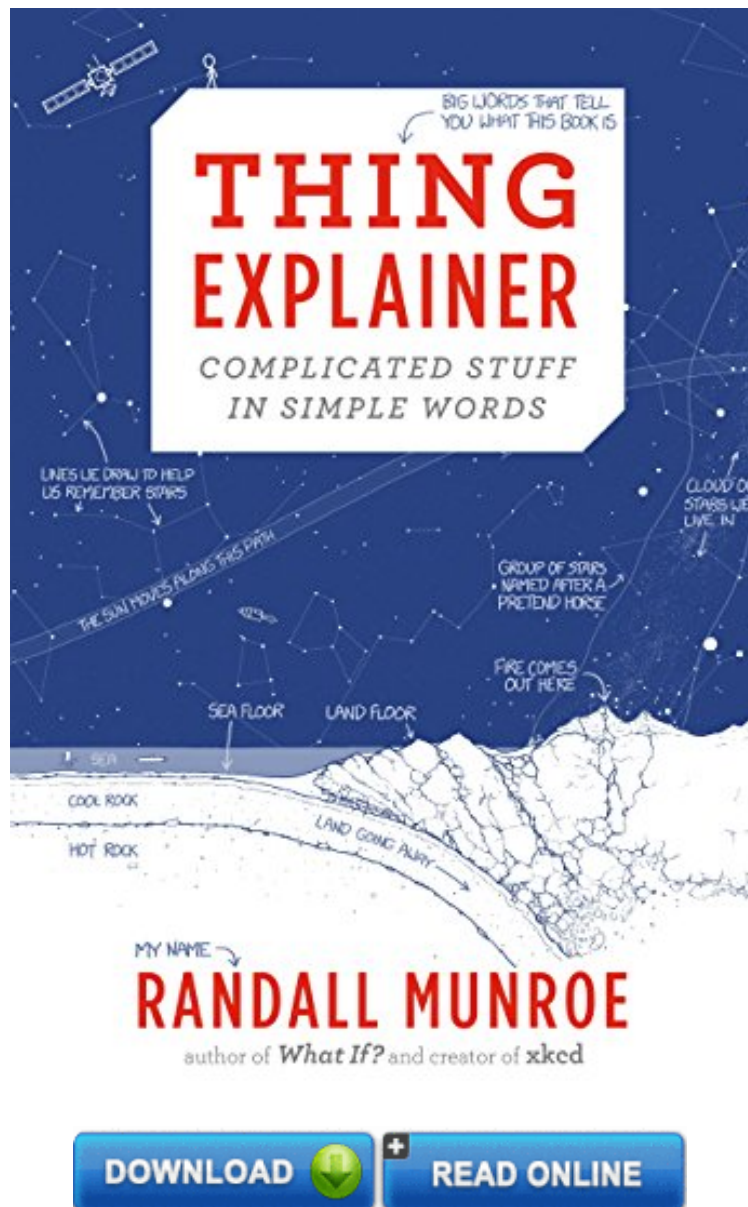


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## Thing Explainer: Complicated Stuff in Simple Words (English Edition)

Von Randall Munroe

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**Von Randall Munroe : Thing Explainer: Complicated Stuff in Simple Words (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Thing Explainer: Complicated Stuff in Simple Words (English Edition):

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KurzbeschreibungFrom the No. 1 bestselling author of What If? - the man who created xkcd and explained the laws of science with cartoons - comes a series of brilliantly simple diagrams ('blueprints' if you want to be complicated about it) that show how important things work: from the nuclear bomb to the biro. It's good to know what the parts of a thing are called, but it's much more interesting to know what they do. Richard Feynman once said that if you can't explain something to a first-year student, you don't really get it. In Thing Explainer, Randall Munroe takes a quantum leap past this: he explains things using only drawings and a vocabulary of just our 1,000 (or the ten hundred) most common words. Many of the things we use every day - like our food-heating radio boxes ('microwaves'), our very tall roads ('bridges'), and our computer rooms ('datacentres') - are strange to us. So are the other worlds around our sun (the solar system), the big flat rocks we live on (tectonic plates), and even the stuff inside us (cells). Where do these things come from? How do they work? What do they look like if you open them up? And what would happen if we heated them up, cooled them down, pointed them in a different direction, or pressed this button? In Thing Explainer, Munroe gives us the answers to these questions and many, many more. Funny, interesting, and always understandable, this book is for anyone -- age 5 to 105 -- who has ever wondered how things work, and why.  
Pressestimmen  
a wonderful guide for curious minds. Bill Gates Like any good work of science writing, [Thing Explainer] is equal parts lucid, funny, and startling. New Yorker.com PRAISE FOR WHAT IF? "To reinvigorate your sense of cosmic wonder... breeze through former NASA scientist Munroe's lively answers peppered with line drawings to some pretty bizarre questions about life, the universe, and everything else... Extreme astrophysics and indecipherable chemistry have rarely been this clearly explained or this consistently hilarious." Entertainment Weekly "10 Best Nonfiction Books of the Year" "Catchy and approachable... There's plenty of scientific rigor behind his elaborate explanations but he punctuates them with sly humor and winningly primitive cartoon diagrams... A cut above so many popular science and technology books." NPR.org "Consistently fascinating and entertaining... Munroe leavens the hard science with whimsical touches... An illuminating handbook of methods of reasoning." Wall Street Journal "Education should aim to teach people to reason confidently about problems that they have never come across before. This book is a great deal of fun, and a masterclass in such reasoning. Like all the best lessons, you only realise you've learned something once you've finished it." The Economist "Munroe takes inane, useless and often quite pointless questions asked by real humans (mostly sent to him through his website), and turns them into beautiful expositions on the impossible that illuminate the furthest reaches, almost to the limits, of the modern sciences. The answers are all illustrated with XKCD's trademark stick figures... and these are eminently approachable." Newsweek "What If? Serious Scientific Answers to Absurd Hypothetical Questions includes old favorites, new inquiries and the mix of expert research and accessible wit that has made Munroe a favorite among both geeks and laymen." TIME "Loaded with the same dry wit and blank-faced stick figures that populate xkcd, What If? is that rare book that will have you laughing as you learn just how a mass extinction might unfold." Discover