



Mechanics from Aristotle to Einstein

Michael J. Crowe

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In a remarkably concise compass, Crowe presents, through actual examples, the fascinating story of how philosophers and scientists through the ages have tried to understand how things move. Included are substantial selections from the writings of Aristotle, Oresme, Descartes, Galileo, Huygens, Newton, and Einstein. The selections are furnished with extensive notes aimed at guiding nonspecialist readers through the texts. Introductory sections provide historical information that helps us understand and appreciate each chapter in the story, which Crowe aptly characterizes as the most remarkable story in all secular history. At the same time, Mechanics from Aristotle to Einstein is itself an intoduction to the foundations of mechanics. Examples and problems are provided to give a true hands on experience of these ideas and discoveries, which are fundamental to an understanding of both our physical universe and our civilization itself. Winner of the Choice Outstanding Academic Title award, 2009.



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