



IRONJAW'S  
BOOK REVIEW  
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**DATE:** 19th September 2016

**TITLE:** The Pleasure of Finding Things Out: The Best Short Works of Richard Feynman

**PUBLICATION:** Penguin Books Ltd (2001), 288 pp.

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**FIRST SENTENCE:** "I have a friend who's an artist and he's sometimes taken a view which I don't agree with very well."

**REVIEW (MAX. 150 WORDS):** The Pleasure of Finding Things Out is a short collection of interviews, speeches, published papers, and lectures by theoretical physicist Richard P. Feynman. He won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1965. Reading this book is best enjoyed after watching Christopher Sykes's 1981 BBC Horizon production of the same title. Without the documentary as introduction it would prove to be a difficult read. This book contains many transcripts of speeches and interviews that explain technical concepts beyond the average person's comprehension. Feynman was a great storyteller, funny and witty, someone you would love to be around at parties. He liked to play the bongos, and while stationed at Los Alamos Labs during the Manhattan Project, one of his hobbies was safe-cracking. He met Niels Bohr (codename Nicholas Baker) and his son Aage (James Baker), Oppenheimer, and Hans Bethe, amongst others.

First published in 1999. This paperback was published in 2001.

**QUOTES:** "Don't you know how to take squares of numbers near 50? If it's near 50, say 3 below (47), then the answer is 3 below 25 - like 47 squared is 2200, and how much is left over is the square of what's residual. For instance, it's 3 less and the square of that is 9, so you get 2209 from 47 squared."

**RATING:** Excellent. 4 stars.

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