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# Oppenheimer

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J. Robert Oppenheimer

A Life in Twilight

Something Incredibly Wonderful Happens

J. Robert Oppenheimer, The Cold War, and The Atomic West

Oppenheimer's Choice

Brotherhood of the Bomb

Oppenheimer and the Manhattan Project

Oppenheimer

Robert Oppenheimer, 1904-1967

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*Oppenheimer*

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**ASHER TYRONE**

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J. Robert Oppenheimer State University  
of New York Press

A gripping narrative of the love and betrayal of J. Robert Oppenheimer, told through the lives of three unique women. Set against a dramatic backdrop of war, spies, and nuclear bombs, *An Atomic Love Story* unveils a vivid new view of a tumultuous era and one of its most important figures. In the early decades of the 20th century, three highly ambitious women found their way

to the West Coast, where each was destined to collide with the young Oppenheimer, the enigmatic physicist whose work in creating the atomic bomb would forever impact modern history. His first and most intense love was for Jean Tatlock, though he married the tempestuous Kitty Harrison—both were members of the Communist Party—and was rumored to have had a scandalous affair with the brilliant Ruth Sherman Tolman, ten years his senior and the wife of another celebrated physicist. Although each were connected through their relationship to Oppenheimer, their experiences reflect important changes in

the lives of American women in the 20th century: the conflict between career and marriage; the need for a woman to define herself independently; experimentation with sexuality; and the growth of career opportunities.

Beautifully written and superbly researched through a rich collection of firsthand accounts, this intimate portrait shares the tragedies, betrayals, and romances of an alluring man and three bold women, revealing how they pushed to the very forefront of social and cultural changes in a fascinating, volatile era.

**A Life in Twilight** Random House  
In 1922, the teenage son of a Jewish immigrant ventured from Manhattan to New Mexico for his health. It was the first of many trips to the Sangre de Cristo

Mountains, a western retreat where J. Robert Oppenheimer would eventually hold pathbreaking discussions with world-renowned scientists about atomic physics. Oppenheimer came to feel at home in the American West, and while extensive studies have been made of the man, this is the first book to explicitly link him with the region. J. Robert Oppenheimer, the Cold War, and the Atomic West explores how the West influenced Oppenheimer as a scientist and as a person—and the role he played in influencing it. Jon Hunner's concise account of Oppenheimer's life and the emergence of an Atomic West distills a vast literature for students and general readers. In this brisk, engaging biography, the author recounts how Oppenheimer helped locate the atomic

weapons research lab at Los Alamos, New Mexico, and helped establish leading physics departments at the University of California–Berkeley and Caltech. By taking part in moving atomic physics west of the Mississippi, Oppenheimer bolstered the establishment of research labs, uranium mines, nuclear reactors, and more, bringing talented people—and billions of dollars in federal contracts—to the region. Interwoven into this atomic tale are insights into the physicist’s troubled growing-up years, his marriage and family life, the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and Oppenheimer’s eventual downfall. After the first atomic bomb burst over the New Mexican desert in 1945 and as the Cold War developed, the American myth of the Wild West

expanded to encompass atomic sheriffs saving the world for democracy—even as powerful opponents began questioning Oppenheimer’s place in that story. Against the backdrop of the physicist’s life twining with the region’s history, Hunner explores the promise and peril of the Atomic Age.

*Something Incredibly Wonderful Happens* Anchor

Focuses primarily on the critical and most public years of Oppenheimer’s career, 1942-1954. Kunetka illuminates Oppenheimer’s role as one of the most influential consultants to the United States Government on matters of atomic energy, including his chairmanship of the powerful General Advisory Committee of the Atomic Energy Commission and his directorship of the

Los Alamos Laboratory, where the first atomic bomb was successfully created.

**J. Robert Oppenheimer, The Cold War, and The Atomic West** Macmillan + ORM

In "Oppenheimer: The Father of the Atomic Bomb" we delve into the complex life and enduring legacy of J. Robert Oppenheimer, a scientific genius whose work shaped the course of 20th-century history. From his early academic brilliance to his pivotal role in the Manhattan Project and his profound ethical reflections, this biography offers a comprehensive exploration of the man behind the atomic bomb. Oppenheimer's journey begins with his privileged upbringing in New York City and takes us through his formative years in Europe, where he absorbed the latest

developments in quantum mechanics and emerged as a promising physicist. His doctoral studies in Göttingen, Germany, positioned him at the forefront of theoretical physics, setting the stage for his later achievements. The heart of the narrative unfolds during Oppenheimer's leadership of the Manhattan Project, a top-secret mission that would ultimately result in the creation of the world's first atomic bomb. We witness the brilliant minds he gathered, the challenges they faced, and the ethical dilemmas that haunted them. But this book is not just a recounting of scientific accomplishments. It delves into Oppenheimer's personal life, his relationships with luminaries like Albert Einstein and Niels Bohr, and his profound moral reflections. His famous quote from

the Bhagavad Gita, uttered after witnessing the Trinity Test, resonates as a timeless reminder of the ethical complexities that accompany scientific discovery. As the narrative unfolds, we follow Oppenheimer into his later years, marked by advocacy for nuclear arms control, his leadership at the Institute for Advanced Study, and his personal struggles, including a battle with throat cancer. This book is an enlightening and thought-provoking journey through the life and times of a scientific oracle whose words and deeds continue to resonate in our world today. Scroll up to get your copy now!

*Oppenheimer's Choice* Enslow Publishers, Inc.

Presents the life and accomplishments of the director of the Manhattan Project,

focusing on his involvement with the development of the atom bomb.

*Brotherhood of the Bomb* University of Iowa Press

In *OPPENHEIMER* Christopher Nolan has fashioned a story of discovery bathed in the light of a thousand suns - but one that is darkened by government surveillance and the travesty of a trial to which Oppenheimer was subjected.

*Oppenheimer and the Manhattan Project* Faber & Faber

2004 marked the centennial of the birth of J Robert Oppenheimer, and brought historians and scholars, former students, nuclear physicists, and politicians together to celebrate this event.

Oppenheimer's life and work became central to 20th century history as he spearheaded the development of the

atomic bomb that ended World War II. This book provides a spectrum of interpretations of Oppenheimer's life and scientific achievements. It approaches the extraordinary scientist and teacher from many perspectives, chronicling the years from his boyhood through his role as director of the Los Alamos National Laboratory and afterwards. The book also discusses Oppenheimer's connection to New Mexico, which hosted two of the Manhattan Project's most crucial sites, and addresses his lasting impact on contemporary science, international politics, and the postwar age.

*Oppenheimer* Plunkett Lake Press  
J. Robert Oppenheimer, a leading physicist in the Manhattan Project, recognized that scientific inquiry and

discovery could no longer be separated from their effect on political decision-making, social responsibility, and human endeavor in general. He openly addressed issues of common concern and as a scientist accepted the responsibility brought about by nuclear physics and the atom bomb. In this collection of essays and speeches, Oppenheimer discusses the shift in scientific awareness and its impact on education, the question of openness in a society forced to keep secrets, the conflict between individual concerns and public and political necessity, the future of science and its effects on future politics---in short, the common and uncommon sense we find in our modern day reality.

Robert Oppenheimer, 1904-1967 Vintage



Poetry. Limited Edition, signed and numbered. Winner of the Firewheel Chapbook Award. Before J. Robert Oppenheimer no human had ever been vaporized. The atmosphere had never caught on fire. The armies of the world had never stopped so abruptly, trembling under their helmets, and the New Mexico desert had not melted into glass. And while there had been other gods of death, never had there been one who was an American. It is little wonder they forgot he was only a single man. Merely a lanky, chain-smoking physicist who rearranged the universe for his country. And for that they destroyed him.

*J. Robert Oppenheimer* Blackbirch Press, Incorporated  
At a moment of great discovery, one Big

Idea can change the world...  
Oppenheimer and his Big Idea, the atomic bomb, exemplify one of the very real dilemmas of modern science. Scientifically unprecedented yet ethically questionable, atomic weapons may have brought World War II to an end, saving thousands of lives, but at what cost? Hiroshima, Nagasaki and a new political balance, teetering on the threat of nuclear annihilation, were part of the legacy of the man best known as "the father of the bomb". Oppenheimer and the Bomb tells the gripping story of the scientist behind The Manhattan Project, from his early days as a Harvard prodigy to his final years as a victim of McCarthyism. A brilliant snapshot of a man and his controversial work, Oppenheimer's Big Idea offers a clear

and engaging introduction to the complex theoretical work behind the bomb, the context of the time and the implications for our future. The Big Idea series is a fascinating look at the greatest advances in our scientific history, and at the men and women who made these fundamental breakthroughs. The Oppenheimer Hearing Vintage

How two charismatic, exceptionally talented physicists came to terms with the nuclear weapons they helped to create In 1945, the United States dropped the bomb, and physicists were forced to contemplate disquieting questions about their roles and responsibilities. When the Cold War followed, they were confronted with political demands for their loyalty and McCarthyism's threats to academic

freedom. By examining how J. Robert Oppenheimer and Hans A. Bethe—two men with similar backgrounds but divergent aspirations and characters—struggled with these moral dilemmas, one of our foremost historians of physics tells the story of modern physics, the development of atomic weapons, and the Cold War. Oppenheimer and Bethe led parallel lives. Both received liberal educations that emphasized moral as well as intellectual growth. Both were outstanding theoreticians who worked on the atom bomb at Los Alamos. Both advised the government on nuclear issues, and both resisted the development of the hydrogen bomb. Both were, in their youth, sympathetic to liberal causes, and both were later called

to defend the United States against Soviet communism and colleagues against anti-Communist crusaders. Finally, both prized scientific community as a salve to the apparent failure of Enlightenment values. Yet their responses to the use of the atom bomb, the testing of the hydrogen bomb, and the treachery of domestic politics differed markedly. Bethe, who drew confidence from scientific achievement and integration into the physics community, preserved a deep integrity. By accepting a modest role, he continued to influence policy and contributed to the nuclear test ban treaty of 1963. In contrast, Oppenheimer first embodied a new scientific persona—the scientist who creates knowledge and technology affecting all

humanity and boldly addresses their impact—and then could not carry its burden. His desire to retain insider status, combined with his isolation from creative work and collegial scientific community, led him to compromise principles and, ironically, to lose prestige and fall victim to other insiders. S. S. Schweber draws on his vast knowledge of science and its history—in addition to his unique access to the personalities involved—to tell a tale of two men that will enthrall readers interested in science, history, and the lives and minds of great thinkers.

*The Advisors* Penguin

He called the first atomic bomb “technically sweet,” yet as he watched its brilliant light explode over the New Mexico desert in 1945 in advance of the

black horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, he also thought of the line from the Hindu epic The Bhagavad Gita: "I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds." Physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer, the scientific director of the Manhattan Project, the single most recognizable face of the atomic bomb, and a man whose name has become almost synonymous with Cold War American nuclear science, was and still is a conflicted, controversial figure who has come to represent an equally ambivalent technology. The Meanings of J. Robert Oppenheimer examines how he has been represented over the past seven decades in biographies, histories, fiction, comics, photographs, film, television, documentaries, theater, and museums. Lindsey Michael Banco gathers an

unprecedented group of cultural texts and seeks to understand the multiple meanings Oppenheimer has held in American popular culture since 1945. He traces the ways these representations of Oppenheimer have influenced public understanding of the atomic bomb, technology, physics, the figure of the scientist, the role of science in war, and even what it means to pursue knowledge of the world around us. Questioning and unpacking both how and why Oppenheimer is depicted as he is across time and genre, this book is broad in scope, profound in detail, and offers unique insights into the rise of nuclear culture and how we think about the relationship between history, imagination, science, and nuclear weapons today.

*American Prometheus* Macmillan  
'Michael Day's insightful 'philosophical biography' of J Robert Oppenheimer stands out from other works on the so-called 'father of the atomic bomb' by its focus on the post-war period and by the depth of its philosophical engagement with his humanistic thought on science and culture.'Centaurus  
ReviewIncorporating elements from history, science, philosophy and international relations theory, this book takes a fresh look at the life and thought of Robert Oppenheimer.The author argues that not only are Oppenheimer's ideas important, engaging and relevant, but also more coherent than generally assumed. He makes a convincing case that Oppenheimer has much to say about 21st century issues, and his voice

should be brought back into the public forum.The book recovers and reconstructs what Oppenheimer said and wrote during the 1940s, 50s and 60s (i.e., his hope and vision) with the goal of identifying what might be of general philosophical interest today. It considers not only Oppenheimer's thought, but also his life using philosophical ideas developed by contemporary philosophers.In addition, to deepen and broaden the discussion and demonstrate the relevance of Oppenheimer's vision for the present, the author analyzes his views using contemporary international relations theory with a special emphasis on nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament. This examination reveals ways in which Oppenheimer's reasoning was prescient of current work being

carried out to control, and possibly move beyond, the nuclear revolution.

### **Oppenheimer and the Atomic Bomb**

UW-Madison Libraries Parallel Press

Kelly Cherry wrestles with the complicated figure of J. Robert Oppenheimer, both the “father of the atomic bomb” and the flesh-and-blood man, from his early upbringing to his work with the Manhattan Project. Her poems explore his formation and education, coming inevitably to rest with his best-known achievement: “The atom would reveal / a power incommensurate with its size. / The skies would open their doors, the firmament shift. / A man would find and lose and find himself.” Kelly Cherry has previously published twenty books of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction, eight chapbooks, and

translations of two classical plays. She was the first recipient of the Hanes Poetry Prize given by the Fellowship of Southern Writers for a body of work. Other awards include fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Rockefeller Foundation, the Bradley Major Achievement (Lifetime) Award, a USIS Speaker Award (The Philippines), a Distinguished Alumnus Award, three Wisconsin Arts Board fellowships, the Dictionary of Literary Biography Yearbook Award for Distinguished Book of Stories in 1999 (2000), The Carole Weinstein Poetry Prize, and selection as a Wisconsin Notable Author. Poet Laureate Emerita of Virginia and a member of the Electorate of Poets Corner at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in New York City, she is

also Eudora Welty Professor Emerita of English and Evjue-Bascom Professor Emerita in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She and her husband live in Virginia.

Vectors World Scientific

J. Robert Oppenheimer is among the most contentious and important figures of the twentieth century. As head of the Los Alamos Laboratory, he oversaw the successful effort to beat the Nazis to develop the first atomic bomb - a breakthrough which was to have eternal ramifications for mankind, and made Oppenheimer the 'father of the Bomb'. But his was not a simple story of assimilation, scientific success and world fame. A complicated and fragile personality, the implications of the discoveries at Los Alamos were to weigh

heavily upon him. Having formed suspicious connections in the 1930s, in the wake of the Allied victory in World War Two, Oppenheimer's attempts to resist the escalation of the Cold War arms race would lead many to question his loyalties - and set him on a collision course with Senator Joseph McCarthy and his witch hunters.

In the Shadow of the Bomb World Scientific

Born into a wealthy, secular New York Jewish family, a student of the Ethical Culture School in New York, later educated in theoretical physics at Harvard, Cambridge (UK) and Göttingen (Germany), appointed professor at UC-Berkeley and Caltech, J. Robert Oppenheimer (1904-1967) was on the forefront of the rise of theoretical

physics in the United States to world-class status, contributing to the century-altering success of the Manhattan Project to build the atomic bomb. As the scientific leader of that project, Oppenheimer played a key advisory role in government, helping to forge the post-war military-industrial-scientific alliance that poured huge resources into post-war “big science.” Because of his position, Oppenheimer became for the public the heroic cultural icon of American science, but he also became a target and a tragic victim of the cold-war fear and nuclear war preparations underlying the McCarthy era. This biographical study focuses on Oppenheimer’s cultural and intellectual rise as a theoretical physicist as well as his role within the trajectory of the

nation’s rise to scientific leadership and the post-war forces that confronted American science. This biography is nearly unique in that it includes discussions for general audiences of Oppenheimer’s work and contributions to theoretical physics, including his famous prediction of black holes sixty years before their confirmed discovery. “Now David Cassidy brings us the best account of Oppenheimer’s life in science with J. Robert Oppenheimer and the American Century.” — T. Powers, *New York Review of Books* “Cassidy covers this ground admirably in his thoughtful biography of Oppenheimer.” —*Scientific American* “Cassidy’s book...is probably the best single study of Oppenheimer to date.” — B. Bernstein, *Physics World* “Cassidy’s biography of J. Robert



Oppenheimer is a concise, well-written book about the life of the famous 20th century scientist... A worthwhile read for anyone with an interest in the coming of age of American physics and how the weaknesses and strengths of one of its leaders shaped the relationship between science and the government for decades to come.” — Physics and Society “This biography is a detailed and beautifully written work. Cassidy expands beyond the traditional scope of a biography and expertly explores the surrounding environment that shaped Oppenheimer’s life.” — Atomic Archive “This excellent biography of J. Robert Oppenheimer places the eminent physicist in the context of twentieth century America... Cassidy... provides excellent insights into the life and times of this complex man.

Unlike many other biographers of Oppenheimer, Cassidy assesses his role as a twentieth century theoretical physicist.” — Alsos Digital Library for Nuclear Issues “A superbly researched biography... There is no doubt that Cassidy gives us a valuable perspective on Oppenheimer’s life. The author is shy neither of editorializing nor of making judgments about the personalities who appear in the story... These comments are almost unfailingly fair and justified by the evidence.” — Times Higher Education “Cassidy... has written a book that neither praises Oppenheimer nor buries his reputation but, rather, puts some tarnish upon the icon.” — G. Herken, Science  
[The Hope And Vision Of J. Robert Oppenheimer](#) Random House

The #1 New York Times bestselling, Pulitzer Prize-winning book *American Prometheus* was the inspiration for the blockbuster film, *OPPENHEIMER*, and is now adapted for young readers. This brand-new edition introduces the next generation to one of the twentieth century's most iconic and complex global figures. J. Robert Oppenheimer was a brilliant physicist who led the American effort to build the atomic bomb during World War II, and who later found himself confronting the moral consequences of the revolutionary weapon he helped create. Readers of all ages will witness the rise and fall of a scientific and historical icon in this masterful new edition. Exploring his childhood, his secret work on the bomb, his central role in the Cold War, and his

tragic downfall, this quintessential biography is history at its finest, riveting and deeply informative, and now available to a younger audience.

In the Matter of J. Robert Oppenheimer

Turner Publishing Company

At the end of World War II, J. Robert Oppenheimer was one of America's preeminent physicists. For his work as director of the Manhattan Project, he was awarded the Medal for Merit, the highest honor the U.S. government can bestow on a civilian. Yet, in 1953, Oppenheimer was denied security clearance amidst allegations that he was "more probably than not" an "agent of the Soviet Union." Determined to clear his name, he insisted on a hearing before the Atomic Energy Commission's Personnel Security Board. In the Matter of

J. Robert Oppenheimer contains an edited and annotated transcript of the 1954 hearing, as well as the various reports resulting from it. Drawing on recently declassified FBI files, Richard Polenberg's introductory and concluding essays situate the hearing in the Cold War period, and his thoughtful analysis helps explain why the hearing was held, why it turned out as it did, and what that result meant, both for Oppenheimer and for the United States. Among the forty witnesses who testified were many who had played vitally important roles in the making of U.S. nuclear policy: Enrico Fermi, Hans Bethe, Edward Teller, Vannevar Bush, George F. Kennan, and Oppenheimer himself. The hearing provides valuable insights into the development of the atomic bomb and

the postwar debate among scientists over the hydrogen bomb, the conflict between the foreign policy and military establishments over national defense, and the controversy over the proper standards to apply in assessing an individual's loyalty. It reveals as well the fears and anxieties that plagued America during the Cold War era.

Oppenheimer Is Watching Me Los

Alamos Historical Society Publications  
Draws from previously classified documents, unpublished manuscripts, private correspondence, and other sources to chronicle the events that surrounded the revocation of scientist J. Robert Oppenheimer's security clearance in 1954, discussing the roles of physicist Edward Teller, Republican businessman Lewis Strauss,

congressional assistant William Borden, and President Eisenhower.--

**Inside the Centre** JHU Press

"No single figure embodies Cold War science more than the renowned physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer.

Although other scientists may have been more influential in establishing the institutions and policies of the nuclear age, none has loomed larger in the popular imagination than the 'father of the atomic bomb.' Americans have been drawn to the story of the Manhattan Project Oppenheimer helped lead and riveted by the McCarthy-era politics that caught him in its crosshairs. Journalists and politicians, writers and artists have told Oppenheimer's story in many different ways since he first gained notoriety in 1945. In *Storytelling and*

*Science*, David K. Hecht examines why they did so, and what they hoped to achieve through their stories. From the outset, accounts of Oppenheimer's life and work were deployed for multiple ends: to trumpet or denigrate the value of science, to settle old scores or advocate new policies, to register dissent or express anxieties. In these different renditions, Oppenheimer was alternately portrayed as hero and villain, establishment figure and principled outsider, 'destroyer of worlds' and humanist critic. Yet beneath the varying details of these stories, Hecht discerns important patterns in the way that audiences interpret, and often misinterpret, news about science. In the end, he argues, we find that science itself has surprisingly little to do with

how its truths are assimilated by the public. Instead its meaning is shaped by

narrative traditions and myths that frame how we think and write about it"--  
Provided by publisher.

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