Contents

Publisher's Note vii Introduction by Paul Davies ix Special Preface xix Feynman's Preface xxv ONE: Atoms in Motion 1 Introduction 1 Matter is made of atoms 4 Atomic processes 10 Chemical reactions 15 Two: Basic Physics 23 Introduction 23 Physics before 1920 27 Quantum physics 32 Nuclei and particles 38 THREE: The Relation of Physics to Other Sciences 47 Introduction 47 Chemistry 48 Biology 49 Astronomy 59 Geology 61 Psychology 63 How did it get that way? 64

Contents

FOUR: Conservation of Energy	69
What is energy? 69	
Gravitational potential energy 72	

Kinetic energy 80 Other forms of energy 81

FIVE: The Theory of Gravitation 89

Planetary motions 89
Kepler's laws 90
Development of dynamics 92
Newton's law of gravitation 94
Universal gravitation 98
Cavendish's experiment 104
What is gravity? 107
Gravity and relativity 112

six: Quantum Behavior 115

Atomic mechanics 115
An experiment with bullets 117
An experiment with waves 120
An experiment with electrons 122
The interface of electron waves 124
Watching the electrons 127
First principles of quantum mechanics 133
The uncertainty principle 136

Index 139

About Richard Feynman 145