

even ridiculed when first presented, illustrate the frequent vagaries and rare rewards of scientific pursuit.

Some sections of the text are a bit drawn out and impulsive. For example, the protracted discussions of solar UV rays, vitamin D production, and skin cancer could have been more compendious. The author's narration sometimes assumes a frivolous tone and comes off as forced humor. While striving to achieve a balance in his commentary on the influence of natural solar forcing and anthropogenic forcing of global climate, Berman comes close to giving ammunition to those who are prone to sweeping generalizations that don't reflect the full nuances of climate science. That should not be regarded as a serious flaw in the book, but rather as a cautionary reflection on how it might be misused.

In other instances, *The Sun's Heartbeat* is elevated to that rare category of writing in which the reader becomes one with the writer and an emotional bond is formed. Berman's raw, organic description of the phenomena of solar eclipses and totality—that magical moment when the Moon blocks out the Sun's disk entirely—is such an instance of brilliant artistry.

In his quest for the light of the Sun, Berman takes his readers on a fantastical journey through the birth, life, and demise of the Sun. On that quest, the reader will travel through Manhattan-henge, where the edges of the streets of New York City glow with the rays of the setting Sun, and will chase solstices and eclipses to Newgrange in Ireland, and the Konark Sun Temple in India. Through time and across continents, you are invited to take this journey with *The Sun's Heartbeat*.

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