

EDITORIAL

The 2020 Tokyo Olympics are currently underway. As I write this, the US has the most medals, while China has the most gold medals.

We've sadly never won at the Olympics. In fact we're the most populated country to never have won at any sport. Now that you have several Olympic related facts at your disposal, you can make of this what you will.

In today's issue, we talk about the turbulence many of our own athletes face on their journeys to pursue sports. We also talk about how our schooling system treats its female athletes from a young age. You can also take a cool quiz to figure out which Olympic sport you would have excelled at.

This is not a themed issue. This is not not a themed issue.

-- Mrittika Anan Rahman, Sub-editor, SHOUT



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BOOKS



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Books on Astrophysics for Nerds Noobs

SABIBA HOSSAIN

If you're a space enthusiast, thankfully there are scientists who wrote simple, sophisticated yet mesmerising books that won't bore you to death, unlike textbooks, and still teach you basic astrophysics that you wish you had learned sooner.

A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking

Considered a classic in the field of astrophysics, *A Brief History of Time* will teach you everything from basic science like Newton's Laws to complex theories like the Hawking radiation. It is written in such a simple manner that you don't need to have a science background to understand the book's approach to the astounding world we live in, or the miracles around us.

If, however, you think this book is too elementary for you, you can pick up Hawking's *The Universe In A Nutshell*, which discusses mind-bending topics such as black holes, time dilation, and more.

Astrophysics for People in a Hurry by Neil deGrasse Tyson

As you can guess from the title, this book is for you if you're an impatient individual. It will explain everything from the Big Bang Theory to dark energy, but unlike *A Brief History of Time*, you will need prior knowledge of ninth grade Science before reading this one.

The book mainly focuses on celestial objects and astronomical concepts, so it's a big win if you're an astrophile.

Hyperspace by Michio Kaku

If you're interested in the Grand Unified Theory, *Hyperspace* is for you.

With his engaging narration and simple explanation, Kaku describes the history of hyperspace, how we came to believe that we have four dimensions rather than ten, mass populations' involvement in it, and the cultural impact this holds.

For instance, did you know Picasso's paintings are drawn in such a way that they will only make sense to a person living in the fourth dimension? Not just painters, con artists or kings -- this book tells the tales of scientists, their successes and failures.

In brief, if you want to know about sophisticated concepts like string theory, quantum mechanics or the theory of relativity without doing an ounce of math, this book is your go-to.

Seven Brief Lessons on Physics by Carlo Rovelli

If you freaked out reading this list and want to read a book under an hour (trust me, I've timed this) but still be dazzled by the stupendous beauty of physics, give *Seven Brief Lessons on Physics* a read.

Rovelli covers everything from the theory of relativity to quantum mechanics in this relatively short book. It's a possibility you won't understand anything in depth, but the book is bound to awaken your inner inquisitiveness, leading you to read other books in this field.

Even if you don't feel interested enough to learn further about the topics discussed in this book, the narration itself is sure to leave you feeling lively, ecstatic, and mellow.

Sabiba Hossain is a Hufflepuff who plans on going into hibernation every winter but never succeeds. Send her fantasy book recommendations at fb.com/Sabibastro