

The Riddle of the Great Tunguska Explosion: More Fascinating than Ever

A new book, published by Springer New York, is a considerable step forward to the solution of the time-honored Tunguska enigma that still remains an unsolved mystery of nature. This may help us someday to protect our Earth from similar events and to avoid dangers so vividly shown in such popular films as “Deep Impact” and “Armageddon”.

The summer of 1908 witnessed the arrival of an unknown space body and an explosion over the Tunguska forest in Central Siberia that could have flattened any major city on Earth. The Tunguska explosion has been widely publicized for decades, yet both the public and the scientific community still seem unaware of the true contents of this amazing puzzle. The key publications are in Russian, so language has been a barrier to understanding the evidence of what took place. Most people think that the Tunguska event was explained long ago by scientists who study meteorites – that it was either a stony meteorite or the icy core of a comet. But these assumptions are not so tenable as their supporters would like to think. The Tunguska event remains an enigma in its second century of existence as perplexing as it has been throughout the past century. And what Russian scientists have discovered in recent decades is both astounding and reliable, and will cause some eyebrows to be raised.

To make these discoveries better known in the West, **Springer New York** has published **Vladimir Rubtsov’s** book *The Tunguska Mystery* (hardcover, 328 pp., 49 illus, 11 in color; language: English; **ISBN: 9780387765730**). This is the first truly comprehensive and popular exposition of this century-long enigma written specially for Western readers. Also, *The Tunguska Mystery* is the only book written in the English language on Tunguska studies in the former Soviet Union and the new independent states that is entirely based on firsthand accounts of serious researchers directly engaged in these studies. The book’s language is simple, *The Tunguska Mystery* is meant not only for specialists, but first of all for any reader who is interested in the fascinating mysteries of the world we live in.

In this book you will find out about the startling discoveries made by past investigations, as well as about the important questions we still have to answer to discover the true nature of the Tunguska catastrophe. Its author Vladimir Rubtsov, Ph.D., is a full member of the Russian Academy of Cosmonautics. He has authored some 150 scientific and popular-science articles in the Soviet, post-Soviet, and foreign press, as well as two monographs, published in the former USSR by academic publishers. Dr. Rubtsov has been studying the problem of the Tunguska explosion during 40 years, closely collaborating with his colleagues in Siberia and elsewhere. These decades-long investigations led him to putting in simple words an account of the Tunguska event that would be fully objective, clear and easy to understand. *The Tunguska Mystery* has appeared as a result of this aspiration.

As a reader noted on Amazon.com, the book is “very well written. The illustrations and photographs help the reader to understand the great importance of this study. I found this book to be a fine addition to anyone’s library. Who does not enjoy a good mystery... a true scientific mystery which may help us someday to protect our Earth from future Tunguska events. I wish to add that it was very enjoyable from beginning to end, with a touch of humor and many interesting facts!”

The Tunguska Mystery

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