

Contents

FOREWORD	<i>page</i> ix
PREFACE	xi
INTRODUCTION	xv
1 City Speed Limit	i
2 The Professor’s Lecture on Relativity which caused Mr Tompkins’s dream	9
3 Mr Tompkins takes a holiday	19
4 The Professor’s Lecture on Curved Space, Gravity and the Universe	31
5 The Pulsating Universe	44
6 Cosmic Opera	55
7 Quantum Billiards	65
8 Quantum Jungles	85
9 Maxwell’s Demon	95
10 The Gay Tribe of Electrons	112
10½ A Part of the Previous Lecture which Mr Tompkins slept through	128
12 Inside the Nucleus	136
13 The Woodcarver	149
14 Holes in Nothing	166
15 Mr Tompkins Tastes a Japanese Meal	177