



# Computing with Quantum Cats: From Colossus to Qubits

*By John Gribbin*

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**Computing with Quantum Cats: From Colossus to Qubits** By John Gribbin

**A mind-blowing glimpse into the near future, where quantum computing will have world-transforming effects.**

The quantum computer is no longer the stuff of science fiction. Pioneering physicists are on the brink of unlocking a new quantum universe which provides a better representation of reality than our everyday experiences and common sense ever could. The birth of quantum computers - which, like Schrödinger's famous "dead and alive" cat, rely on entities like electrons, photons, or atoms existing in two states at the same time - is set to turn the computing world on its head.

In his fascinating study of this cutting-edge technology, John Gribbin updates his previous views on the nature of quantum reality, arguing for a universe of many parallel worlds where "everything is real." Looking back to Alan Turing's work on the Enigma machine and the first electronic computer, Gribbin explains how quantum theory developed to make quantum computers work in practice as well as in principle. He takes us beyond the arena of theoretical physics to explore their practical applications - from machines which learn through "intuition" and trial and error to unhackable laptops and smartphones. And he investigates the potential for this extraordinary science to create a world where communication occurs faster than light and teleportation is possible.

This is an exciting insider's look at the new frontier of computer science and its revolutionary implications.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"The master of popular science writing" --*Sunday Times*

"A fascinating tale of scientific endeavour ... Gribbin expertly elucidates the relationships and discoveries that shaped Schrödinger's thoughts, including his lengthy correspondence with Albert Einstein, which led to the famous cat-in-the-box thought experiment ... Anyone wishing to dip their feet in the muddy waters of quantum physics will enjoy this scientific soap opera. But it should be required reading for those eager to understand how the process of scientific discovery really works." --*New Scientist* (On *Erwin Schrödinger and the Quantum Revolution*)

#### About the Author

**John Gribbin** gained a PhD from the Institute of Astronomy in Cambridge (then under the leadership of Fred Hoyle) before working as a science journalist for *Nature* and later *New Scientist*. He is the author of a number of bestselling popular science books, including *In Search of Schrödinger's Cat*, *In Search of the Multiverse*, *Science: A History*, and *The Universe: A Biography*. He is a Visiting Fellow at the University of Sussex and in 2000 was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

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