Mirror Worlds: Or the Day Software Puts the Universe in a Shoebox.How It Will Happen and What It Will Mean

By David Gelernter

Oxford University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 256 pages. Dimensions: 8.8in. x 6.0in. x 0.7in.Technology doesnt flow smoothly; its the big surprises that matter, and Yale computer expert David Gelernter sees one such giant leap right on the horizon. Todays small scale software programs are about to be joined by vast public software works that will revolutionize computing and transform society as a whole. One such vast program is the Mirror World. Imagine looking at your computer screen and seeing reality--an image of your city, for instance, complete with moving traffic patterns, or a picture that sketches the state of an entire far-flung corporation at this second. These representations are called Mirror Worlds, and according to Gelernter they will soon be available to everyone. Mirror Worlds are high-tech voodoo dolls: by interacting with the images, you interact with reality. Indeed, Mirror Worlds will revolutionize the use of computers, transforming them from (mere) handy tools to crystal balls which will allow us to see the world more vividly and see into it more deeply. Reality will be replaced gradually, piece-by-piece, by a software imitation; we will live inside the imitation; and the surprising thing is--this will be a great humanistic...

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