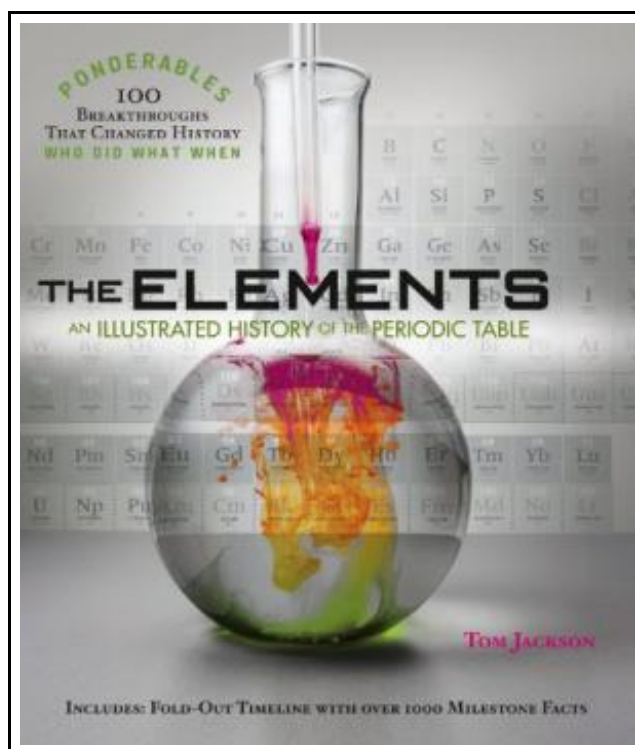


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Shelter Harbor Press. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 168 pages. Dimensions: 10.9in. x 9.4in. x 1.2in. In 1869 Dmitri Mendeleev presented the world with the Periodic Table. It contained 63 elements, many more than the four earth, water, fire, and air established in the ancient world, but less than half the total in our modern table. Mendeleev believed there were many elements still to come. He was right. In this essential guide to the Periodic Table, we track the history of the powerful yet elegant tool that lays bare the building blocks of the Universe. The journey begins just as the first cities are forming, and follows the contributions made by philosophers, alchemists, industrialists, and great scientists as they gather force to create this masterpiece of accumulated knowledge. The story includes Democritus of ancient Greece who said that the four elements of nature earth, water, fire, and air must be made of atoms, otherwise our world is just an illusion, and the French aristocrat Antoine Lavoisier, who was the first to show that water is not an element at all. With over three hundred illustrations, it opens a window into the very stuff of nature stars, rocks, life, and more and shows us the way to make even smarter technologies. From the ancient Greek philosopher who noticed the unusual force exerted by amber, to the alchemist who boiled urine until it glowed in the dark, to the British inventor who described the powerful effect of electricity on a dead body to Mary Shelley (before she wrote *Frankenstein*) to the theologian who observed mice becoming unconscious when dangled over brewing beer, the discovery of the elements is a story with many chapters, each adding to our understanding of these basic substances that make up the world around us. The thoughts and deeds...



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