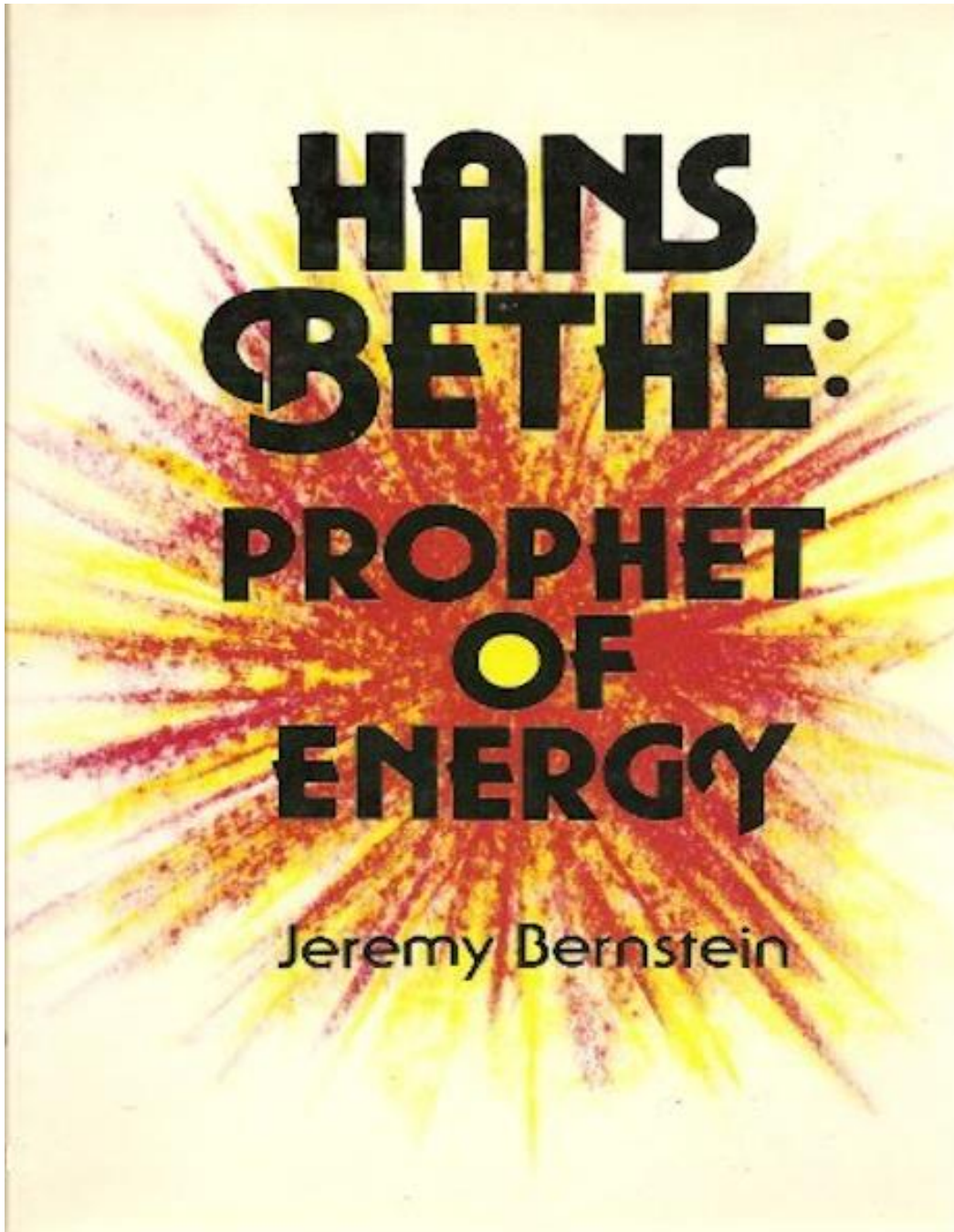


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## BOOK REVIEW

Bernstein, Jeremy. **Hans Bethe, Prophet of Energy**. Basic Bks. 1980. 210p. bibliog. index. LC 80-50555. ISBN 0-465-02903-5. \$11.95. SCI/BIOG



Bethe won the Nobel Prize in physics in 1967 for his work on energy production in stars. His career in physics began in Germany under the tutelage of the great theoretical physicist Arnold Sommerfeld. In 1934 Bethe accepted a professorship at Cornell University, a post he held until retirement in 1975. The book begins with an account of Bethe's early years in German universities and later research in America, with particular emphasis on his contributions to the atomic bomb project at Los Alamos and the subsequent development of the hydrogen bomb. A second theme concerns America's energy problem. The book discusses the pros and cons of the various sources of energy and outlines policy options for the future. Because of Bethe's background in atomic science, considerable attention is given to the development and use of atomic power. Other sources of energy are only briefly explored. This book is a worthwhile contribution to scientific biography but does little to illuminate the choices in our energy future.

John H. Sandy, The General Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin

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