



Weighing the World: The Quest to Measure the Earth (Paperback)

By Edwin Danson

Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 2009. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.At the start of the 18th century there were no maps, anywhere in the world. No one knew, with any certainty, the shape of the earth or what lay beneath its surface. Was it hollow or solid? Were the Andes the highest mountains on the Earth or was it the peak of Tenerife? Was the Earth a perfect sphere or slightly squashed as Sir Isaac Newton prophesized? In *Weighing the World*, master-surveyor and bestselling author Edwin Danson presents the stories of the scientists and scholars who cut their way through jungles, crossed the arctic tundra, and braved the world's highest mountains to discover the truth about our Earth. Danson also recounts the extraordinary experiment, conducted on a desolate Scottish peak by Astronomer Royal Neville Maskelyne, to understand the so-called attraction of mountains, the curious capability mountains have to bend gravity, without which it would be impossible to accurately map Earth's surface. A spell-binding scientific adventure story, *Weighing the World* will intrigue anyone curious about the shape of our planet and how we have...



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