



# Prodigal Genius: The Life of Nikola Tesla

*John J. O'Neill*

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## **Prodigal Genius: The Life of Nikola Tesla** John J. O'Neill

Even the gods of old, in the wildest imaginings of their worshipers, never undertook such gigantic tasks of world-wide dimension as those which Tesla attempted and accomplished. -from Chapter One First published in 1944 and long a favorite of Tesla fans, this is a definitive biography of the man without whom modern civilization would not exist. Nikola Tesla, pioneer of electrical engineering, was a close friend of Pulitzer Prize-winning author O'Neill, and here, O'Neill captures the man as a scientist and as a public figure, exploring: . how Tesla's father inspired his life in engineering . why Tesla clung to his theories of electricity in the face of opposition . how the shy but newly popular Tesla navigated the social life of New York in the gay 1890s . Tesla's friendship with Mark Twain . the story of Tesla's lost Nobel Prize . Tesla's dabblings in the paranormal . and much more. JOHN JOSEPH O'NEILL (b. 1889) also wrote Engineering the New Age and You and the Universe: What Science Reveals.

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