

This book tells the incredible story of George Gamow, one of the most brilliant and extravagant physicists of the past century. Gamow was born in Russia in 1904 and died in the USA in 1968: his professional life covered the time span between the twenties and the sixties, characterized by rapid developments in physics. Gamow was a key scientific figure of that time.

Gamow's true merits were seldom fully recognized. Yet his ideas are behind a number of Nobel Prizes for Physics during the past century. His remarkable achievements in Nuclear Physics, Astrophysics and Cosmology were the result of a combination of expertise and creativity, intuition and, importantly, of a good sense of humor. Together they craft the image of a true revolutionary scientist. Gamow also had a natural talent for popularization and was throughout his life a successful science communicator.

This book builds prominently on the extensive interview that science historian Charles Weiner did with Gamow short before his death, in 1968. Here Gamow offers a thorough and intriguing survey of his scientific achievements. Stimulated by his interviewer, he looks back at the most important ideas, events and people who influenced his professional and personal path, thus also providing a unique description of the development of physics in the past century. During this interview, Gamow also expresses his own opinions about facts and people, something he avoided doing on other occasions.

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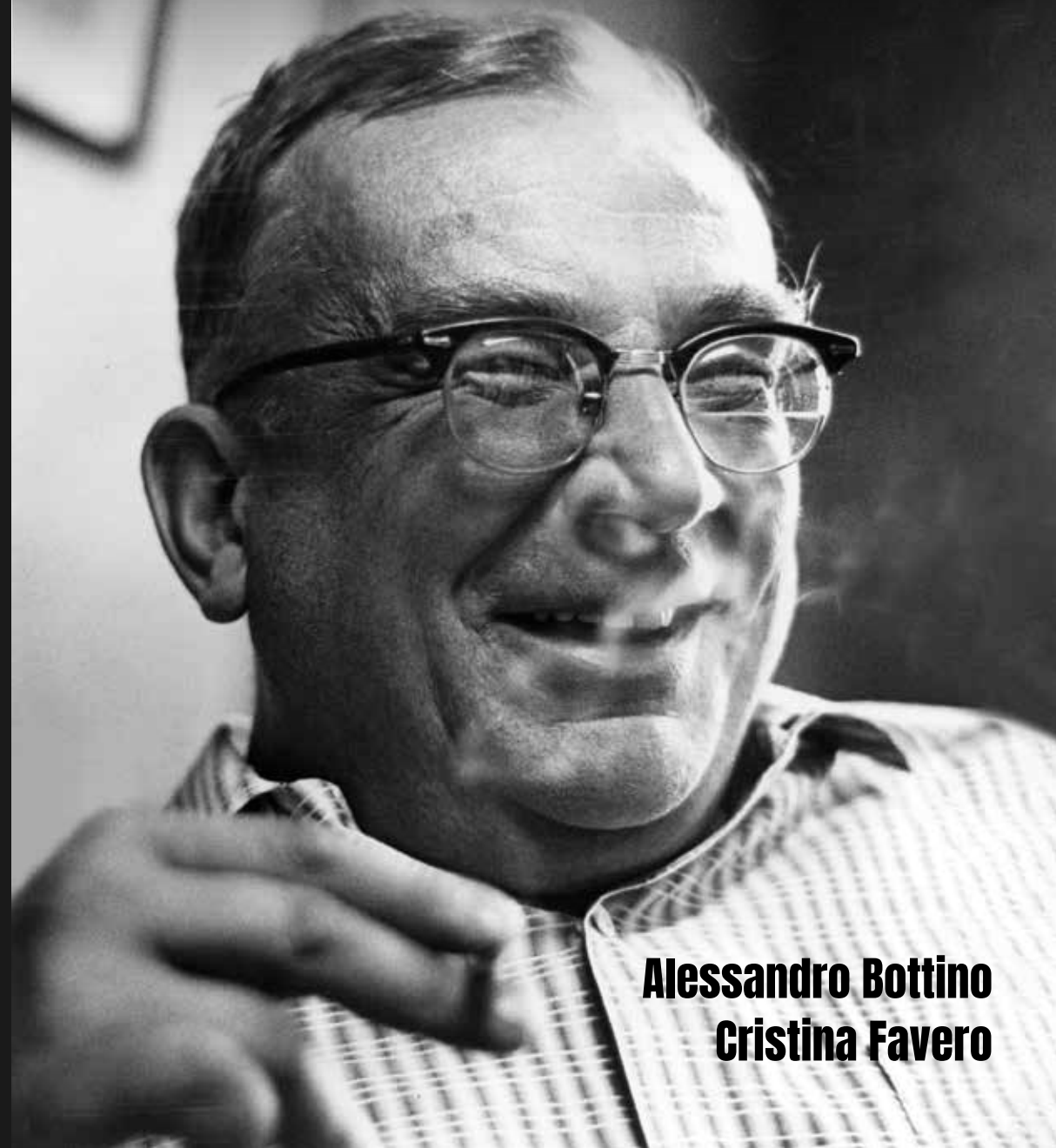
**I Never Call It Big Bang**  
*George Gamow: The Extraordinary Story of a Genius of Physics*

**Alessandro Bottino**  
**Cristina Favero**

# I Never Call It Big Bang

## George Gamow

### The Extraordinary Story of a Genius of Physics



**Alessandro Bottino**  
**Cristina Favero**