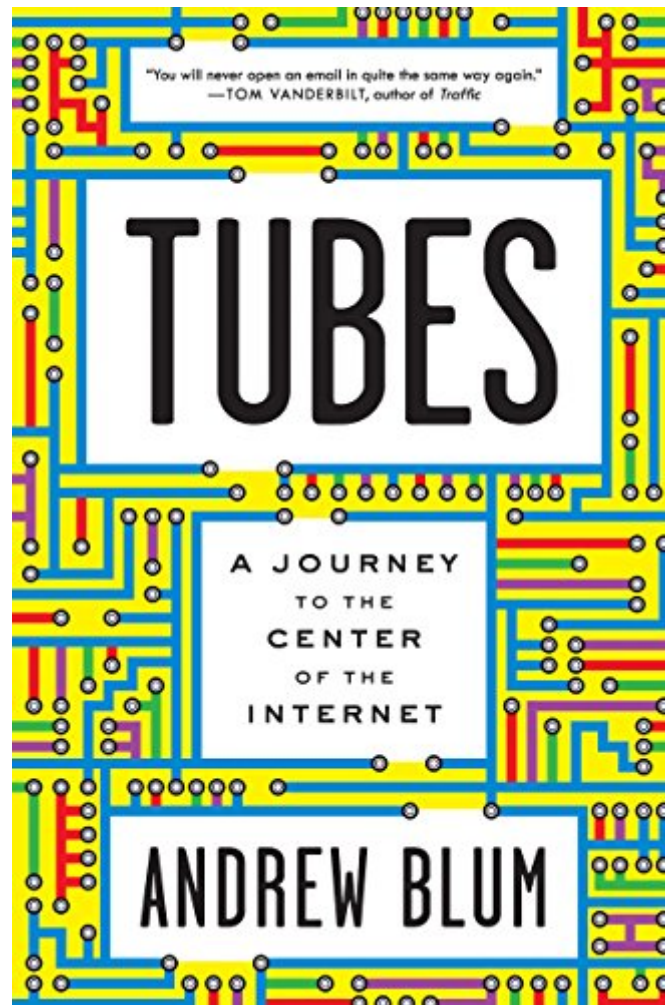


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# Tubes: A Journey To The Center Of The Internet



## Synopsis

“Andrew Blum plunges into the unseen but real ether of the Internet in a journey both compelling and profound. You will never open an email in quite the same way again.” —Tom Vanderbilt, New York Times bestselling author of *Traffic* In *Tubes*, Andrew Blum, a correspondent at *Wired* magazine, takes us on an engaging, utterly fascinating tour behind the scenes of our everyday lives and reveals the dark beating heart of the Internet itself. A remarkable journey through the brave new technological world we live in, *Tubes* is to the early twenty-first century what *Soul of a New Machine* was to the late twentieth.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

...“The Internet” (as most of us have come to understand its popular rise in our consciousness over a generation) has been described with many metaphors: clouds, tubes, webs (as well as Arthur C. Clark’s broad category of magic for any sufficiently advanced technology). “Tubes” doesn’t really create new ground in sustaining or refuting any of these concepts. Instead, it captures the

physicality behind the magic that delivers all those digital pieces to us through and examination of how the physical layer of the Internet grew. After a squirrel-induced outage at his Brooklyn home, Andrew Blum set out to expand the trace of wires behind his furniture, and see where all that data came from. The result of his findings are here, and he presents us with insider looks at the following: -The physical parts of the network that grew by chance in its early days -The physical parts of the network that grew by design as it matured -The physical parts of the network where data moves and where data rests. The results: detailed descriptions of the large centers where the connections of large backbone providers intersect and move data, tours of some of the places where undersea cables emerge from the depths to tie continents together digitally, and visits to the one of the factory analogs of the Information Age: the data centers that some increasingly trust more than they trust their own local storage options. I've had my own experiences visiting facilities like these, and it's quite an accomplishment to get a book-length treatment of them. How much can you write about servers, switches, hubs, routers and cable runs? As it turns out, a lot, and Blum does so in an engaging and accessible way.

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