



GODS  
OF  
GEEKDOM

## NEIL DEGRASSE TYSON

The popularity of the *Cosmos* reboot has knocked Neil's geek factor from a 6 all the way down to a 2, but if anything, that actually enhances his stature in the pantheon. If there were such a thing as a street brawler of a scientist, it would be Dr. Tyson. He even shares a last name with former heavyweight boxing champion and notable cannibal, Mike Tyson. They aren't related, and I suspect that they disagree on whether the human ear should be bitten off, but there is no mistaking the hint of pugilistic spirit that Neil shares with Mike. Neil has never

pulled any punches when it comes to ideologues who attack science. Most recently, when creationists complained about not being given equal time with the discussion of evolution in *Cosmos*, Neil pointed out that no reasonable person would give people who believed the earth was flat equal time with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in a discussion of astronomy: no nonsense, straightforward, and just a little bit blunt, kind of like the fist of science that many annoyed science geeks wish they saw far more often.