

The Wonder of It All!
The Depth of Our Belonging to the Evolving World

Recommended Introductory Material

Berry, Thomas. *The Great Work: Our Way Into the Future* (New York: Bell Tower, 1999). See also www.thomasberry.org

Eisenstein, Charles. *The More Beautiful World Our Hearts Know Is Possible* (North Atlantic Books, 2013).

www.joannamacy.net

Swimme, Brian and Mary Evelyn Tucker. *Journey of the Universe* (Yale University Press, 2011).

Swimme, Brian. *The Hidden Heart of the Cosmos: Humanity and the New Story* (Orbis Books, 1996). See also storyoftheuniverse.org

General Bibliography, Videos and Websites

Abrams, Nancy Ellen. *A God That Could Be Real: Spirituality, Science, and the Future of Our Planet* (Beacon Press, 2015). The book is a blend of science and theology by a lawyer who takes advantage of being the spouse of an astrophysicist who won the Nobel Prize for his role in discovering dark matter. The result is a novel conception of spirituality and God, grounded in cutting-edge science. In his foreword Desmond Tutu says: "I dare say many religious believers will be deeply challenged by this book. . . I recommend it highly to all, religious or secular, believer or atheist, who are ready to explore honestly their understanding of the divine in our beautiful, expanding universe."

Berry, Thomas. *The Dream of the Earth* (Sierra Club Books, 1988).

Inspiring, challenging, empowering! This book explores human-Earth relations and seeks a new, non-anthropocentric approach to the natural world.

www.thomasberry.org see also <http://ecoziotimes.com>

Berry, Thomas, Mary Evelyn Tucker (ed). *Evening Thoughts: Reflecting on Earth as Sacred Community* (Sierra Club with The University of California Press, 2006).

Bourgeault, Cynthia. *The Wisdom Way of Knowing* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, a Wiley Imprint, 2003).

_____. *The Wisdom Jesus: Transforming Heart and Mind – A New Perspective on Christ and His Message* (Shambhala Press, 2008).

Boulding, Kenneth E. *The Evolutionary Potential of Quakerism* (Wallingford, Pennsylvania: Pendle Hill Pamphlet #136, 1964).

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Capra, Fritjof and David Steindl-Rast. *Belonging to the Universe: Explorations on the Frontiers of Science and Spirituality* (Harper San Francisco, 1991).

Clayton, Philip, Mary Coelho and the New Story Group. *Quakers and the New Story, Essays on Science and Spirituality* (Friends Meeting at Cambridge, 2007).

Coelho, Mary. *Awakening Universe, Emerging Personhood: The Power of Contemplation in an Evolving Universe* (Wyndham Hall Press, 2002). This is the first book that integrates the scientific story of evolution, as espoused by Thomas Berry and Brian Swimme with long-standing practices of contemplation and mysticism.

_____. *Recovering Sacred Presence in a Disenchanted World* (Wallingford, PA Pendle Hill Pamphlet #433, 2015).

Deep Time Journey Network: www.deeptimejourney.org

A global community exploring an Evolving Universe as a foundational context and offering online professional development programs.

Fox, Matthew. *Original Blessing: A Primer in Creation Spirituality* (Tarcher/Putman, 2000).

Griffin, David Ray. *God and Religion in the Postmodern World: Essays in Postmodern Theology* (Constructive Postmodern Thought) State University of New York, 1989).

Haught, John. *Deeper Than Darwin: The Prospect For Religion in the Age of Evolution* (Westview Press, 2003).

Haught, director of the Georgetown Center for the Study of Science and Religion, makes a solid and sometimes elegant case that an evolutionary universe can and does manifest divine purpose and promise. The basic idea of "evolutionary theism" is not new, but this book invigorates the debate by interacting with more recent literature while introducing some fresh lines of argument. Acknowledging that Darwinian biology has considerably deepened our understanding of life, Haught argues that we should dig even deeper than Darwin - and that religious belief helps us do so.

Kauffman, Stuart A. *Reinventing the Sacred: A New View of Science, Reason, and Religion* (Basic Books, 2008). The author, a principal architect of complexity theory, explores its implications for religion. Philip Clayton writes of the book: "a brilliant manifesto for a new emergence-based scientific worldview. But science alone will never be enough: humanity must also invent new categories of the sacred that speak to this naturalistic age. Stuart Kauffman courageously challenges fundamentalist pretensions on both sides, seeking to mold a new partnership of science and religious values."

Fleischman, Paul. *Wonder: When and Why the World Appears Radiant* (Small Batch books, 2013). A psychotherapist probes deeply into what we mean by "wonder" and how it is different from similar concepts such as "awe." He draws on diverse

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sources, concocting a “mix of Dylan Thomas’s cozy wonder, Einstein’s scientific wonder, Chandrasekhar’s mathematical wonder, Carl Sagan’s quasar and black-holed wonder, Whitman’s bumptious wonder, and Melville’s ‘ungraspable phantom of life’.”

Macy, Joanna, and Chris Johnston. *Active Hope: How to Face the Mess We're in without Going Crazy* (New World Library: Novato, CA, 2012).

Macy, Joanna and Thich Nhat Hanh (Introduction) *World as Lover, World as Self* (Parallax Press, 1991). Joanna Macy conveys her personal concerns in the fields of deep ecology, systems philosophy, deep time, and Buddhism

McIntosh, Steve. *Evolution’s Purpose* (Select Books Inc., 2012).

Morgan, Jennifer. Three volume series illustrated by Dana Lynne Anderson

Born With a Bang: The Universe Tells Our Cosmic Story

From Lava to Life: The Universe Tells Our Earth Story

Mammals Who Morph: The Universe Tells Our Earth Story

(Dawn Publications, 2002, 2003, 2006).

Stunning artwork combined with impeccable science. These children’s books have the Universe telling its own story of chaos and creativity, science and struggle. This series is an excellent introduction to The Great Story for children and adults alike.

Newell, J. Philip. *Listening to the Heartbeat of God, A Celtic Spirituality* (Paulist Press, 1997).

Peacocke, Arthur. *Preface. In Whom We Live and Move and Have Our Being.* **Philip Clayton and Arthur Peacocke, eds.** (Eerdmans Publishing, 2004).

Phipps, Carter. *Evolutionaries* (HarperCollins, 2012).

Senge, Peter C., Otto Scharmer, Joseph Jaworski and Betty Sue Flowers. *Presence: Human Purpose and the Field of the Future* (Doubleday, 2004).

Soeng, Mu. *The Heart of the Universe -Exploring the Heart Sutra* (Wisdom Publications: Somerville, MA, 2010).

Swimme, Brian. *Canticle to the Cosmos - DVD Series (12 Part series)*

Swimme, Brian. *Powers of the Universe - DVD Series (10 Part Series)*

Swimme, Brian, Mary Evelyn Tucker. *Journey of the Universe –1 hour video and book by the same title*

The two DVD series are of a college course taught by Brian Swimme. Stunning scientific insights combined with unsurpassed depth and breadth of meaningful interpretation. Inspiring and faith-building.

storyoftheuniverse.org and emergingearthcommunity.org

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Swimme, Brian. *The Universe Is a Green Dragon* (Bear & Company, 1984).
More people attribute their Great Story awakening to this book than to any other. Written in the classical form of a philosophical dialogue between two speakers, "Thomas" and "Youth," Swimme's book is dedicated to Thomas Berry and the cosmological tradition he celebrates. Highly recommended for both adults and teens.

Swimme, Brian and Thomas Berry. *The Universe Story: From the Primordial Flaring Forth to the Ecozoic Era* (Harper San Francisco, 1992).
This is a foundational text for gaining an in-depth understanding of 13 billion years of cosmic creativity from the big bang to the present and into the next millennium, The Universe Story unites science and the humanities in a dramatic exploration of the unfolding of the universe, humanity's evolving place in the cosmos, and the boundless possibilities for our future.

The New Story Group at Friends Meeting at Cambridge. *Quakers and the New Story: Healing Ourselves and the Earth* (5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge, MA 02138, 2014).

Toben, Carolyn W. *Recovering a Sense of the Sacred: Conversations with Thomas Berry* (Timberlake Earth Sanctuary Press, 2012).
Carolyn Toben's conversations occurred when Thomas Berry was retired in North Carolina. They offer an intimate account of his thought and spirituality.

Tucker, Mary Evelyn and John Grimm. *Thomas Berry: Selected Writing on the Earth Community* (Modern Spiritual Masters, Orbis Press, 2014).

Wilber, Ken. *A Theory of Everything* (Random House, 2000).
Ken Wilber is the most widely read philosopher of our time, who ranges from western culture to eastern mysticism. Here is the best (and quickest!) introduction to his profound, practical, and inspiring "integral vision," a theory that truly integrates all theories - science, religion, art, morals, physics, politics, medicine, education, ecology, sociology and business. The first chapter, an excellent overview of Spiral Dynamics, is worth the price of the book in itself.

_____. *Integral Spirituality* (Shambhala Press, 2006).
A highly readable and accessible introduction to Wilber's "integral" paradigm, with important new tools for clarifying metaphysical muddles and heading off religious tunnel vision. A foundational textbook for intraspiritual wisdom studies.

Wink, Walter. *Engaging the Powers Discernment and Resistance in a World of Domination* (Fortress Press: Minneapolis, MN, 1992).