



The Holy Universe: A New Story of Creation for the Heart, Soul, and Spirit

By David Christopher

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Taking an unflinchingly realistic look at the global crises we face, yet offering empowerment and hope instead of grim despair, this powerful new narrative transforms the cold, scientific facts of the Universe into a soulful story of creation that is reminiscent of humanity's stories of the ages. Told through a dialogue between a Seeker and his Sage, the worldview developed here transcends dogma and belief, giving readers a new way to reconnect with the cosmos. Human history is grounded into the larger history of the universe, revealing a context for understanding how humanity has created these global crises and what we can do about them. Through the dialogue, the seeker realizes his importance in the larger story and finds his path in the midst of the turbulence of our times.

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Editorial Review

Review

"This book is a remarkable synthesis of modern and ancient wisdom, innovation, and science. David Christopher sheds light on the creative third options that emerge when polarities or opposites are brought together to create a greater whole. Timeless, yet most relevant for our current issues and challenges we face personally and collectively."

--Angeles Arrien, Ph.D., Cultural Anthropologist, author of The Four-Fold Way, Living in Gratitude, and others

"David Christopher has done a brilliant job of explaining the new science of the evolution of life and the Universe. His story helps us view the crises of our time in a new and more positive light and offers a guidepost for the emerging culture of our time."

--Paul H. Ray, Ph.D., coauthor of The Cultural Creatives: How 50 Million People Are Changing the World

"Truly remarkable--unites a clarity of understanding of what the human family is up against with a poetic story of where we came from and who we really are. David is an artist and an activist, a poet and a prophet. His wisdom is vibrant, moving, and powerful."

--Lynne Twist, cofounder, The Pachamama Alliance, founder, The Soul of Money Institute, and author of The Soul of Money

"David Christopher creates a much-needed bridge between a sense of cosmic wonder and our everyday experience, showing how our understanding of the meaningful unfolding of the Universe can actually inform our day-to-day struggles, questions, and yearnings. Christopher's writing brings clarity of thought together with a spacious and compassionate view, all in the service of cultural healing."

--Mary Gomes, Ph.D., coeditor of Ecopsychology: Restoring the Earth, Healing the Mind

"David Christopher is a Kahlil Gibran for the 21st century. His book uses the venerable tradition of the teaching-story to guide us toward a deeper understanding of the Great Transformation that is the setting for our lives. For readers with a spiritual sensibility, The Holy Universe offers a cosmic perspective grounded in ecological sensibility."

--Richard Heinberg, Senior Fellow, Post Carbon Institute, and author of The Party's Over, The End of Growth, and others

"For those of us who have respect for the scientific method—but who also call ourselves 'spiritual but not religious,' who seek a spirituality unburdened by the chains of dogma, who seek a deep connection with Creation that is based in awe and reverence for nature and the cosmos—David Christopher has done a marvelous job in helping us reclaim the word 'Holy.'" —John Robbins, author, The Food Revolution

"Insightful and thought-provoking; connects the dots between challenges faced by ancient cultures and those

confronting us today, in ways that inspire us all to take action." —John Perkins, author, *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*

"The story of our shared origins—not just as humanity or even life, but as the Universe itself—must be told again and again for us to come home once more in time and space, to be at ease and connected. David's telling as a conversation between Sage and Seeker brings the vastness of the story closer to our daily experience. His is a fresh and accessible voice." —Vicki Robin, coauthor, *Your Money or Your Life*

"From past to present, from mythos to mapping a practical path, The Holy Universe offers powerful insights, inspiring us all to care and then take conscious action from a deeply connected place." —Julia Butterfly Hill, author, *The Legacy of Luna*

From the Author

From the Introduction to The Holy Universe . . .

Like so many people who left the faiths of their youth, as an adult I still yearned to believe in *something*. But just as the religious interpretations of the scriptures I grew up with proved deeply unsatisfying to me, so too did the cold, factual stories of modern science fail to speak to my spirit. Like the Seeker in the pages of this book, I left the story of the scriptures I was given, but I also couldn't reconcile myself with the "Big Dumb Rock" story of creation put forth by the mechanistic worldview that emerged out of the European Enlightenment and persists to this day.

At the same time, I struggled with being in an unjust world seemingly bent on ecological self-destruction. I craved a spiritual direction that encompassed more than self-help, a story that could help me create meaningful work for myself that made a difference in a world of mass extinctions, deep injustices, and spiritual poverty.

So I quit my corporate training job, then my flying career, to seek an outlet for my passion for humanity and for protecting the ecology of Earth that also satisfied my soul and spirit.

During the exploring and teaching I've undertaken in the decade or so since, I've heard the refrain "we need a new story" from many thinkers of our time, who were themselves raised within the worldview of what I call "Modern Mind." They write and talk about how this worldview has created a global society that--for all its technological prowess and brilliance--has become dysfunctional to the point of becoming a danger to itself and to the Web of Life. And there are people among them--including Thomas Berry, Sidney Liebes, James Lovelock, Elisabet Sahtouris, and Brian Swimme, as well as "big historians" such as Nancy Ellen Abrams, Cynthia Stokes Brown, Eric Chaisson, David Christian, Joel Primack, and Fred Spier--who tell of a new worldview based on the latest science of the modern world, who speak beyond the traditional story of "pure" science.

There are other writers, thinkers, and activists who have at the same time struggled to awaken those of us caught up in the overarching Story of Modern Mind to another story that's been there all along. Many of the ideas of these people were brought into the Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream Symposium, created by The Pachamama Alliance in San Francisco. I became one of many facilitators of this Symposium, and I've always loved presenting the segment that illuminates the new worldview now coming into being.

But even as I dove deeper into this new worldview, this new story, I felt something missing. I missed the

poetry. I missed the cadence and the sound of the scriptures. I wanted more. I wanted a story that also felt like the one I grew up with.

So I took my (admittedly limited) understanding of these ideas and fashioned my own telling of the story of creation, one that feels reminiscent of the scriptures and helps me make sense of the profound crises of our times.

It felt audacious, still feels audacious. I present the resulting dialogues to you simply as an offering, most certainly not as a final answer, an authoritative text, or a replacement for all other stories. My own teacher cautioned me to treat this work as "notes on my journey": thoughts and ideas forming a framework from which I will continue my explorations into the mysteries of life and the cosmos, yet written in a way that feels familiar and warm and welcoming. Of course, this framework will inevitably change as I continue my life's dance, especially as I explore ways of being in and relating to the world that are well outside the norms of modernity.

Although my life now doesn't always flow more smoothly than before this story came to me, and though I still carry old wounds and concerns, I no longer have such a deep nagging sense of ennui, of alienation, of being lost in a meaningless Universe. These dialogues have helped me make sense of both the science and the spirit, have helped ground me in the cosmos.

Perhaps you will find them useful, too.

DC

From the Back Cover

"This story of the Universe," said the Sage,
"is a young story; it is changing as we discover and rediscover more
about ourselves, our planet, our galaxy, and our Universe . . ."

--from THE HOLY UNIVERSE

* * *

With this, the Sage then guides the Seeker into a powerful new narrative--one that translates the scientific facts of the Universe into a soulful story of creation that is reminiscent of humanity's stories of the ages. The two explore the unfolding of the Universe, from the Beginning of All Beginnings, to the emergence of Earth and human beings, all the way to the "Great Transformation" brought on by the global crises that we now face. Through these dialogues, the Seeker finds his path in the midst of the turbulence of our times. He learns how this evolutionary story can inform us all as we face the crises of the Great Transformation---and why these crises just might be the best thing that ever happened to humanity.

* * *

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to The Pachamama Alliance, a rainforest preservation and educational organization working to bring forth a thriving, just, and sustainable world.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

James Hubbard:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive currently, people have do something to make these people survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice

simply by surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a book your ability to survive improve then having chance to stand up than other is high. To suit your needs who want to start reading a book, we give you this specific The Holy Universe: A New Story of Creation for the Heart, Soul, and Spirit book as starter and daily reading e-book. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

Ana Jara:

This book untitled The Holy Universe: A New Story of Creation for the Heart, Soul, and Spirit to be one of several books in which best seller in this year, this is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit on it. You will easily to buy that book in the book retailer or you can order it by using online. The publisher with this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more readily to read this book, because you can read this book in your Cell phone. So there is no reason to you to past this publication from your list.

Robert Young:

The reason why? Because this The Holy Universe: A New Story of Creation for the Heart, Soul, and Spirit is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap it but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such amazing way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book include such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to delay having that book? If I had been you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

Diana Johnson:

This The Holy Universe: A New Story of Creation for the Heart, Soul, and Spirit is brand new way for you who has intense curiosity to look for some information mainly because it relief your hunger of knowledge. Getting deeper you into it getting knowledge more you know or you who still having tiny amount of digest in reading this The Holy Universe: A New Story of Creation for the Heart, Soul, and Spirit can be the light food to suit your needs because the information inside this particular book is easy to get through anyone. These books develop itself in the form which can be reachable by anyone, that's why I mean in the e-book contact form. People who think that in e-book form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this book is the answer. So there is no in reading a reserve especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for you. So , don't miss this! Just read this e-book variety for your better life as well as knowledge.

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