



James Lovelock et al: The Earth and I

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An essential illustrated collection of earth and human science for curious minds of all ages

“We are buried beneath mountains of fast accumulating data. In such circumstances, this book, rather than adding to the data load, aims to offer real understanding.” –James Lovelock

Human beings are extraordinary creatures. Intelligent, agile, and curious, we have adapted and invented our way to becoming the most important species on the planet. So great is the extent of our influence, that many speak of a **new geological era, the Anthropocene, an age defined by human-induced change to the blue and green globe we call home.**

Our lofty status comes with responsibility as much as possibility: How should we approach our present and future? What knowledge should we carry with us? Conceived by **James Lovelock**, inventor of the Gaia theory, this **illustrated essay collection** brings together an all-star line-up of thinkers and scientists to offer essential understanding about **who we are, how we live, and where we might be going.**

Much as the Gaia theory considers our earth as an integrated whole of living systems, *The Earth and I* encourages holistic understanding. Across 12 chapters, we take in both the **intricate details and immense structures of our species and our planet**, from our ever-expanding universe to our minuscule but mighty **cells**. We see **stellar explosions** and the layers of life beneath our feet, delve into the **neuroscience** of decision-making, get to grips with our **climate**, and contemplate our increasing intimacy with **technology**.

The book's world-class contributors include quantum physicist **Lisa Randall**, Astronomer Royal **Martin Rees**, Pulitzer Prize-winning biologist **Edward O. Wilson**, and Nobel Prize-winning neuroscientist **Eric Kandel**. With lively illustrations from British artist Jack Hudson, the result is an inspiration for curious minds young and old, and a trusted tool kit for an informed and enlightened future.

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Editorial Review

Review

“This handsome collection of essays celebrates Earth’s dynamism and resilience.” (*Discover magazine*)

“...a beautiful, handy explainer on the evolution of the planet.” (*Wired.com*)

“Across 12 chapters, you’ll take in the intricate details and immense structures of our species and our planet, from our minuscule but mighty cells to our ever-expanding universe.” (*ES Magazine*)

“...a beautifully illustrated book of essays...” (*The Guardian*)

“Understand the world better with this illustrated user’s guide to the Anthropocene [...] ...a beautiful new book.” (*fastcoexist.com*)

About the Author

James Lovelock is an independent scientist, environmentalist, and originator of the Gaia theory which considers the earth as a living and evolving system, striving to regulate itself so that contemporary life can flourish. Lovelock has been cited as one of the world’s top 100 intellectuals (Prospect), “a scientific visionary” (The Times) and “one of the greatest thinkers of our time” (New Scientist).

Jack Hudson is a British illustrator with a particular interest in scientific subjects and the interaction of macro and micro scales. His portfolio includes work for The New York Times, Transport for London, Google Chrome, and The Guardian.

Lisa Randall is Professor of Science at Harvard University and a leading expert on particle physics and cosmology. Her research focuses in particular on extra dimensions of space. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and was on the list of Time Magazine’s “100 Most Influential People” of 2007.

Martin Rees is the UK Astronomer Royal and Emeritus Professor of Cosmology and Astrophysics at the University of Cambridge. He has authored or co-authored more than 500 research papers and eight books, with special interests in high-energy astrophysics and early generation of stars and galaxies. Rees’ international awards include the Balzan Prize and the World Cultural Council’s Einstein Award.

Edward O. Wilson is a biologist, naturalist, and University Research Professor Emeritus at Harvard, hailed as the “father of biodiversity.” With a particular specialism in the behavior of ants, Wilson draws on his deep knowledge of the Earth’s smaller creatures to explore the planet’s intricately interconnected natural systems. He is a two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction.

Eric Kandel is a Professor of Brain Science at Columbia University and founding director of the Center for Neurobiology and Behavior. In 2000, he received the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine for his research on the molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying learning and memory.

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