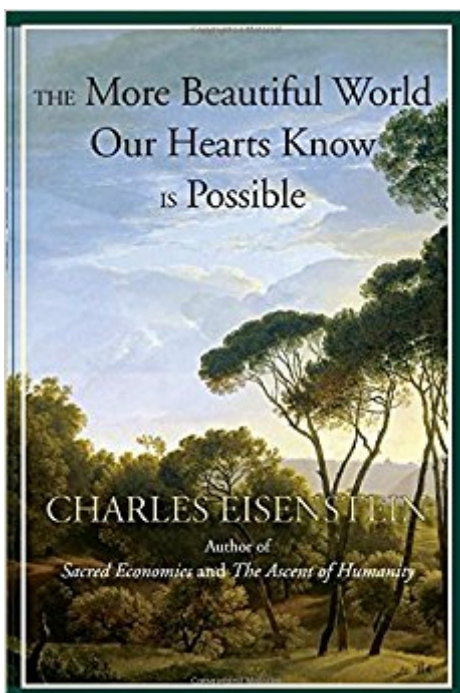


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The More Beautiful World Our Hearts Know Is Possible (Sacred Activism)



Synopsis

As seen on Oprah's SuperSoul Sunday In a time of social and ecological crisis, what can we as individuals do to make the world a better place? This inspirational and thought-provoking book serves as an empowering antidote to the cynicism, frustration, paralysis, and overwhelm so many of us are feeling, replacing it with a grounding reminder of what's true: we are all connected, and our small, personal choices bear unsuspected transformational power. By fully embracing and practicing this principle of interconnectedness—called interbeing—we become more effective agents of change and have a stronger positive influence on the world. Throughout the book, Eisenstein relates real-life stories showing how small, individual acts of courage, kindness, and self-trust can change our culture's guiding narrative of separation, which, he shows, has generated the present planetary crisis. He brings to conscious awareness a deep wisdom we all innately know: until we get our selves in order, any action we take—no matter how good our intentions—will ultimately be wrongheaded and wronghearted. Above all, Eisenstein invites us to embrace a radically different understanding of cause and effect, sounding a clarion call to surrender our old worldview of separation, so that we can finally create the more beautiful world our hearts know is possible. With chapters covering separation, interbeing, despair, hope, pain, pleasure, consciousness, and many more, the book invites us to let the old Story of Separation fall away so that we can stand firmly in a Story of Interbeing.

Book Information

Series: Sacred Activism

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: North Atlantic Books; Third edition (November 5, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9781583947241

ISBN-13: 978-1583947241

ASIN: 1583947248

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.8 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 135 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #10,877 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > New Thought #81 in Books > Science & Math > Technology #357 in Books > Self-Help > Personal Transformation

Customer Reviews

"This is a revolutionary and interactive book in the sense that it inspires the reader to think out of the ordinary. Eisenstein will be noted in antiquity as one of the seminal and pioneering storytellers of this new world." • Publishers Weekly Starred Review "It is rare to find, in such digestible portions, so rich a feast for mind and heart." • Joanna Macy, author of *Active Hope: How to Face the Mess We're in without Going Crazy* "When I read Charles Eisenstein I felt as if I had just put on an extraordinarily clear, lucid, morally honest set of glasses. I see my outer and inner worlds in penetrating detail. He isn't just describing a possible world. He is helping us find our way to it." • Vicki Robin, author of *Your Money or Your Life* "Charles Eisenstein is a cultural investigative journalist, questioning the perpetually unexamined assumptions of both conventional and counter-cultural thinking. He is a cultural storyteller, a visionary who gives us a glimpse of what the new Story of the People may look like, how we might get there, and how close we are to it." • Mark Boyle, author of *The Moneyless Manifesto* "God damn this is good! This version of the big story by Charles Eisenstein is one of the best I have ever heard. Charles, you are speaking for millions of us and we so know what you are saying to be true. We will absolutely tell the whole fucking world about it." • Brad Blanton, author of *Radical Honesty* "The more beautiful world I inhabit accords with Charles Eisenstein's vision: a world where we embrace the shadow and give it name so that the healing can begin. Take this book and let it seep into your very being." • Polly Higgins, author of *Eradicating Ecocide*, barrister and earth lawyer "This book will change your world. It is beautiful because Charles Eisenstein has the courage to be vulnerable and it is in acknowledging our vulnerability that we will realize our greater humanity." • Revd Peter Owen-Jones, presenter of *Around the World in 80 Faiths*, author, and priest "One does not 'read' this book, but rather interacts with it. And take heed, it will open your heart and mind, arouse ire and derision, and change the way you think about your life. Beautifully written, heart-warming, and thought-provoking, Eisenstein will undoubtedly be noted in history as a pivotal storyteller." • New Consciousness Review On Sacred Economics "This brilliant and beautifully written book is a must-read for all those who believe our economic system is terminally sick and in need of radical, sacred rehaul. I hope this book begins a serious, worldwide conversation on how we can reinvent our attitude to money." • Andrew Harvey, author of *The Hope: A Guide to Sacred Activism* On *The Ascent of Humanity* "Brilliant and original, with great depth of insight and understanding. *The Ascent of Humanity* easily ranks with the works of such giants of our age as David Bohm, Julian Jaynes, Jean Gebser, Alfred North Whitehead...."

• Joseph Chilton Pearce, author of *The Crack in the Cosmic Egg* “A powerful pick for any who would combine spiritual perspectives with social change. This book thwarts cynicism and offers keys to connecting personal choices to powerful change. | An uplifting, inspirational, spiritual and social examination recommended for a wide range of readers looking for positive encouragement.” • Midwest Book Review

Charles Eisenstein is a speaker and writer focusing on themes of civilization, consciousness, money, and human cultural evolution. His viral short films and essays online have established him as a genre-defying social philosopher and countercultural intellectual. Eisenstein graduated from Yale University in 1989 with a degree in Mathematics and Philosophy and spent the next ten years as a Chinese-English translator. The author of *Sacred Economics* and *Ascent of Humanity*, he currently lives in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania.

No words I could write will do justice to this work of heart by Charles Eisenstein. It is, without question, the most important book I've read in my 6 decades of life (I have read hundreds) although surely each has been "the next step" in my coming to this one. I will be giving this book to every close relationship I have, not just those whose experience has been easy, and certainly not knowing if it will be "the next step" for him/her. No matter. This book has put all the missing pieces together for this formerly dismayed, yet somehow-still-hopeful, seeker of solutions for (what I have previously viewed as) a world gasping for breath. My fiancé is now reading it and is having his mind blown, too. As two seriously committed activists for a healthy, peaceful planet, and human beings trying to dance to the tune of "cosmic unity", we have often felt like two cripples on an arduous journey, finding it difficult to walk, much less leap for joy. We now understand that with a frequency that frankly made us ache to acknowledge, we've unknowingly viewed the complexity of family, business, community and world problems (and those we blamed) through what Charles calls the Story (and thus the perspective) of Separation. Wholely changed by absorbing his message, I must say that reading it feels more like "remembering" something I've always deeply known, like a forgotten name on the tip of one's tongue, that when retrieved, elicits an exuberant inner "Yes!" We are beginning to walk on wobbling legs the New Story of Interbeing Charles eloquently unfolds, and while not naive to our challenges, are thrilled at the possibilities for us all. My greatest "thank you" to Charles Eisenstein will be to truly integrate this Story of Reunion into my life and let the ripple effect begin. By the way, I've never written a review for a book before and do not receive any compensation from its sale, but do expect to enjoy a global increase of love that will surely follow its

exposure.

When I finished this book I started again from the beginning, something I never do. The author challenges the reader to engage in confronting the future and fate of humanity through myth and story, logic and philosophy. While never glossing over the inevitable turmoil we face he presents a positive alternative to chaos and detachment. I find his work bracing and strangely comforting.

Charles Eisenstein's "More Beautiful World..." is itself a gift to that world. Written by a clearly intelligent, in the left-brain, mathematical sense, man who not only has done his research but has researched his own heart to present a vision clear in its hope, possibility and pleasure. It is itself a pleasure to read as one feels one's own heart correspondingly open and respond to the memory, deep inside all of us, of what we already knew once was truly possible before we "learned" so differently. An economic/social and education system that did that to us, despite what other "progress" it also did at times create, is one that has to be deeply rethought. Fortunately, Eisenstein's rethinking of those very issues is clear, specific and thoughtful. These are not things impossible to do or even that hard, when you consider the alternative choices we've made instead and their effect on our planet, all well delineated here. By far my very favorite part was the author's own vulnerability and self-questioning, openly displayed to us in his writing as a lovely counter example to the patriarchal, all-knowing "expert" without any evident self-work. I literally sent this book to every close friend I had, as a Holiday/New Year 2014 present! As I do consider it that, to anyone who puts aside their trained pessimism about what is indeed possible, if we do that work internally and together, around our shared and still potentially beautiful world.

The first thing I noticed is that Charles does not profess to be an expert. In some ways he stumbles about, much like we humans are currently doing in our daily lives. His ability to put the human experience of how we are living our lives as well as how we treat ourselves and each other into words, is impressive...all the while remembering to role model a non-judgmental, inclusive attitude. Some say that because humans are born basically good, we would tend to stop making harmful choices once we were made aware of the harmful results of our actions. Charles offers some generous and forgiving ways for us to slow ourselves down enough to open our eyes to the trance-like quality of our media-designed culture. With awareness, the trance is weakened and we can begin to see and think for ourselves. The idea of wanting to leave the world a 'better place' is one that is growing stronger. We can't get there by keeping everything the same. This book talks

about the kind of change that can lead us in that direction, together. If you believe that humans are born basically bad or evil, this book will disappoint you...unless you are willing to open your mind enough to consider the possibility of what could happen if we substitute curiosity for criticism.

Quite possibly the most Beautiful book I have ever read in my life! Charles is a wizard with words and has an incredible gift of transmitting powerful stories! Stories that penetrate so deep, that we discover uncharted territories within our very own beings as we follow their captivating and undeniable truths, pointing towards the truth that exists within us all. He does all of this using with an astonishing intellect, a great sense of humility, and above all a comprehensive compassion that you can feel pouring out from the pages. In this book, he gracefully weaves through many different topics and binds them together into a Beautiful tapestry that describes, How, with every individual action, we can move towards The More Beautiful World Our Hearts Know Is Possible!

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