

# Section 13 – Tomorrow and the Day After

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## Intentional Earthlings

We are humans. Uniquely amongst the species we know of, we can change ourselves. We can predict events and plan responses. We have always been Earthlings but now, with science and, possibly more importantly, with the knowledge of our human history, we can be *intentional* Earthlings.

Everyone can do this. All you have to do is go out into the world and wonder at the incredible beauty of the Earth, and determine to do whatever you can to protect it.

When the *Voyager 1* space probe showed us the Earth from six billion kilometres away, we saw how tiny and isolated it is in the vastness of space. In that moment, we realised that our very existence is something that should inspire spiritual feelings of awe and wonder.

Pantheism expresses this. Unlike the organised religions of the patriarchy, it is a worldview for individuals. No priestly class is required to interpret for people or to intercede on their behalf. Instead, each person responds directly to the revelations of science and the needs of the planet, and takes her or his own path to celebrate *this* life, *this* world.

Of course, Pantheism will not be a perfect fit for everyone. For those who prefer a purely secular worldview that does not have any connotation of religion, science provides enough reason to protect the earth. Rationalism provides enough reason to allow all people to be educated, and logic and ethics provide enough reason to make the world safe for everyone, particularly the women and children.

Contrary to the expectations of the Enlightenment, organised religions have refused to die. For those who prefer their more traditional structure, another alternative is possible. All of today's patriarchal religions and cults, even the most misogynistic, warlike and cruel, originated in the balance of the matriarchy and the worship of the Goddess. In this book, we have detailed this progression and shown how men perverted religion. Perhaps, knowing how their faiths have been warped into instruments for the suppression of women, mass control and the justification of the patriarchy's violence, believers might change them from the inside. If informed members begin to move their attendance and their financial contributions to religions that embrace the ideals of: caring for 'creation'; equality for women and men; social justice; women's full control over their own bodies; celebration of the love between free and equal consenting adults,

regardless of the form it takes, and the condemnation of violence, in any form, against anyone, religions will have to change. After all, religions rely on numbers, on membership.

The Earth movement is something that can be embraced by individuals from any spiritual orientation, but for it to be successful we need to sway political will so that actions can be taken on a grand scale. The key ingredient is education – education based on reality and evidence, not wishful thinking and dogma. When individuals are educated, they can make informed choices. When enough educated people adjust their spending habits, speak out in rallies and protests, in books and in the media, and participate in elections, the political will cannot help but change.

Fortunately, science has given us two new tools: the Internet and social media. The tribe of Earthlings has found new ways to communicate. The 2011 *Occupy Wall Street* protest in New York gave rise to the Occupy movement against social and economic inequality worldwide. These were individuals communicating in personal, collective, creative ways not bound by the vested interests of corporate capitalism.<sup>1</sup>

On September 21, 2014, over 400,000 individuals converged on New York City for a climate march, most of them drawn there via social media. The self-serving deals between governments and corporations, and the damage caused by dirty coal, mountain top removal mining, fracking, oil spills and the tar sands can no longer be hidden from the population at large or masked with propaganda.

There are many kinds of education. In earlier cultures, it was the job of the priestly class to understand and instruct and the job of the people to believe and obey. The people did not dare to express disbelief. People fought and died for things they had been conditioned to believe in, even if they did not understand them. Who benefits from that kind of belief? Only the controlling systems; not the people. In our modern world, this ‘priestly’ job of instructing is largely done by marketing, and the ‘religion’ with the biggest advertising budget wins. But we can be subversive. We have the tools. Where our education systems prove insufficient or constrained, we can now educate ourselves and one another.

Understanding the history and evolution of belief is vital in today’s world. Seeing the Big Picture arms us with insight, and enables us to see through the propaganda. It provides us with a frame of reference from which to mount our resistance. It lets us know that things have not always been the way they are, and need not continue to be this way.

Our planet is facing a disaster of truly ‘Biblical’ proportions, and all the Bronze-Age texts in the world cannot help us avoid it. Thanks to science, we now understand the truth about how we

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<sup>1</sup> Which is but one face of the modern patriarchy that holds profit as its god.

came to be here. We know, too, why we need to treat the Earth as precious and sacred. There is no imaginary sky-god who can pardon us for causing the planet's eco-sphere to reject us. There is no saviour in a fantastical and invented heaven. There is only life on Earth and what we make of it. Millennia of living under the patriarchal delusions that the Earth is ours to plunder and that an invented deity will save us from the consequences of our greed have brought us perilously close to causing our own destruction. Revering the Earth and taking care of this tiny, fragile home of ours, may yet save us from ourselves.

Just like our Palaeolithic foremothers, if women can control their fertility so that all of their children will have enough to eat, they will do so. Our overpopulated world needs mothers to have this right. We need equal representation for women in government and business. We need women and men to be equal in politics, religion and culture. We need all women, everywhere, to be educated, so that they will educate their children, for when the people are educated, leaders are held to a higher standard. Men will not be oppressed by this; instead they will contribute as equals to the survival of the Earth's human family.

The matriarchy was never as the patriarchs, terrified of its power, paint it. It was never a culture where men were oppressed as the patriarchy oppresses women. Rather it was a culture in which women and men were equal, each with their own vital roles to play in the single most important function of human society: ensuring the survival of the children.

Over the last 5,000 years, the patriarchy has become so pervasive that it has made itself invisible. It denies any alternative and, instead, tries to make us believe that it is the only natural way for humans to live. Yet we have shown that there is another way.

Through exploration of the myths and religions that shaped our world, we have come to understand why men made God. Whether or not we still require deities in our lives is a matter for individuals to decide. Regardless of that choice, we hope we have persuaded you that the Balance is what matters. Today, the futures of our children depend on taking definitive, coordinated action to protect their home, the planet Earth. Women and men must be equal partners in this.

It is time for us to evolve again. It is time for us to spin a new cultural thread – intentionally.