Perspective

Consciousness: The Organizing Principle of the Universe (Part 2)

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Abstract

Consciousness has appeared as a term, and a problem, in modern science. Most scientists believe that it can be accommodated, and explained, by existing scientific principles. But I say that it cannot, that Consciousness points completely beyond present-day science to a whole new view of the Universe, where Consciousness, and not matter, or matter/energy, is the true basis for the Universe, and the right fundamental term, for science, all other disciplines as well, and for civilization itself. And this new term Consciousness, opens directly into the basic term of all religions, Spirit, as simply Infinite Consciousness. And so, for the first time in their long and bitter and antagonistic history, science and religion now share a common base.

Part 2 of this two-part article includes: 9. A Rewrite of Modern Science; 10. The New Scientific Image of Nature; 11. And now, Descartes; 12. The Principles of understanding; 13. Archimedes; 14. A brief return to our three-dimensional world; 15. Consciousness is the key, the missing piece of the puzzle; Epilogue; About the Author; and References.

Keywords: Consciousness, God, Universe, true basis, organizing principle.

9. A Rewrite of Modern Science

Whitehead believed that biology, far from being reducible to physics and chemistry, would one day revolutionize physics itself, with concepts of organism. I propose to rewrite even the concepts of organism, and all of its causalities, in terms of Consciousness.

I am proposing to re-conceptualize the concepts of matter, the basic concept of the whole of science, in terms of Consciousness, and with it re-conceptualizing science. And so, I offer a rewrite of many concepts of present day science. I am proposing the term Consciousness as the true basis of the Universe, and of all Universes, and the right fundamental term.

To accommodate this new view of things, physics needs to revise just one concept: Energy, all energy contains Consciousness, that Idea alone will change our world forever. It is Consciousness that makes energy intelligent, know what it is doing. Physics at present is two termed matter/energy, it needs to become three termed matter/energy/Consciousness recognizing that Consciousness is the most basic term of all.

Sir James Jeans, twentieth century astronomer: The more we understand it, the more the universe resembles a vast thought, than a vast machine.

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Stephen Hocking once thought that physics would be over by the end of his lifetime. Well, his own theories of black holes are now undergoing major revisions. And physics has finally reached the starting gate.

Shortly before his death in the 1960's, Robert Oppenheimer had a vision of a revolution in physics, and not in particle physics. Well, here it is, with this term Consciousness.

Physicists have never been interested in Consciousness, but have always assumed that it would somehow "fall out of" the physical description. Well, it will not just fall out of the physical description, it will enable a major rewrite of the physical description itself.

And so, Roger Penrose: There must be something that we have overlooked, some other perspective...I say: Yes Roger, it is our own Consciousness, and its significance for the greater Universe of which we are a part.

And Roger goes on to say: If physics is to advance in the twenty first century, as it has in the twentieth century, it will require powerful new concepts of a completely different kind...and I say: Yes Roger, and here is the first of them, this term Consciousness that will change our understanding of the Universe Forever.

And so, to put it in a nutshell: The whole of science both Physics and the Life Sciences, founders on "the problem of Consciousness," because it cannot be explained by any scientific principles and points to a completely new view of the Universe as I am presenting it here.

And so: A sketch of some of its implications.

There is only one basic term for all Universes, Consciousness existing in two modes: Consciousness Formed, and Consciousness Formless. Consciousness is the common denominator of every Universe, both physical and purely spiritual.

The speed of light is not as Einstein claimed the same in every Universe, or even in our own, it varies with the density of the medium. The speed of light also appears to be an upper limit on how fast things can happen, that nothing can go faster than the speed of light. The truth is that Consciousness travels faster than the speed of light, things happen instantaneously.

And so here are some new ideas:

- a. Physics at present is two termed, matter and energy, it needs to be three termed, matter, energy and Consciousness.
- b. The forces, Newton consider the forces to be animating principles of bodies, pushes and pulls, what pushes? What pulls? The forces are "shades and silhouettes" of the Real, an expression and a direction in Consciousness.
- c. Mathematics? The simplest kind of order, as a child crawls before it walks.
- d. The dark matter of space, 97% of all of the energy in the Universe: It is the energy of infinite spiritual Universes, showing up in the interstices of our own. There are other Universes in our own living rooms.

- e. Unified field theory? When physicists have it they will have a description, not an explanation, of the flotsam and jetsam of the Universe, the truth will have eluded them, sneaked out the back door.
- f. The Penrose triangle: What are the relationships between matter, mind, and mathematics? The basic term for the Universe is Consciousness, matter is an expression of Consciousness, mind is a specialization of Consciousness, and mathematics? It all depends on the status of numbers. I would say numbers are concepts in Consciousness.
- g. What are we looking at in the quantum world? Richard Feynman: Anyone who claims to understand the quantum world is either a liar or crazy.

The quantum world is simple, we are looking at Consciousness going in and out of physical form, stepped down from purely spiritual reality, from greater degrees of freedom into less degrees of freedom, we are in fact, looking at the interface between our three-dimensional Cartesian world and the wider and greater, richer Consciousness Universe.

- h. Max Plank's "pixels of reality," ---little bits of reality, now there's a concept, hard to come by these days! This theory dates from the early 20^{th} century, and is now growing more complicated by the day, and therefore badly in need of revision.
- C. S. Pearce, proposed that the basic units of the Universe are mental, not physical, that physical reality is really composed of mental units "congealed." This is not a happy term, suggesting as it does, cold porridge.

The true basic units of the Universe, are Consciousness units, Consciousness vibrations, and all physical reality is composed of myriads of minute forms of Consciousness, endowed with all the properties of Consciousness, and if physicists could understand that basic units in the Universe are more like selves, and not things, they would have less difficulty in understanding it. The dazzling radiance of the quantum world owes to the fact we are looking at the most basic elements of matter and the basic elements of Consciousness interacting.

i. And so, here is a brave bold and beautiful principle, a simple single and unifying principle, that will make sense of just about everything, a shift as basic as the shift that Copernicus made, that will enable an incredible gain in simplicity, clarity, and intelligibility.

Modern science is a mountain of discordant detail and anomalous facts, epicycles of every kind. And this new Universe picture can accommodate all the data of modern science---the paranormal, Jung's synchronicities, Rupert Sheldrake's morphogenetic field, Dean Radin's "Entangled Minds," Bruce Lipton's findings, that what we carry in our Consciousness determines how stem cells differentiate. And it may account for the fact that the word Love, written on a glass of water changes the crystalline structure.

j. And, of course, reincarnation, together with the near-death experience, a great interest to many people these days. Reincarnation is a process whereby one Consciousness (self, soul) takes on bodies again and again, and lays them down, wholly impossible in the prevailing material Universe picture. The scientific evidence for reincarnation is increasing on all sides. But the real

question is: What does reincarnation really mean? For Ourselves? And for the Universe? Stay tuned.

10. The New Scientific Image of Nature

When we re-conceptualize Descartes concept of matter, and that of modern science, we re-conceptualize the Earth, and our ways of relating to the Earth. And so, this new image of nature: The present scientific image of nature, as something devoid of Consciousness, simply matter and mechanics, is driving the destruction of the planet, and driving us all insane, it is ultimately false, and it needs to change.

The trees, the animals, around us, they are not "things, consumer items, commodities and resources" to be converted into money in the bank, but they are living conscious spiritual beings, like ourselves, let the barriers we have placed between us go down, and the more we can realize how like us they are, the harder it will be to do them all in. Take a look at *Beyond Words: What Animals Feel and Think*, as a place to begin working out these ideas.

This new scientific image of nature: Nature, the Earth, consists of interacting systems of Consciousness, Consciousness within Consciousness, within Consciousness. And how does it all work? Consciousness functions by a kind of alignment, my Consciousness is aligning the Consciousness of neurons in the brain, mainly from the top down, or interactive, but not reduction to the purely physical forces.

All the true causalities and the explanatory principles of the Universe belong to Consciousness, and not matter. Consciousness is not something produced by matter, Consciousness is the source of matter, Consciousness is the "very stuff of the Universe."

And so, just what are the neurons up to? Neurons are somehow <u>carrying</u> Consciousness, not producing it, and neural networks accommodate the field properties of Consciousness.

And so, the key: Just what is a neuron? Everything, every being in the Universe, small and great, has Consciousness, and that includes the neurons. The hard problem of Consciousness, was hard, because we could not see how two such very different things, matter and Consciousness, could work together, how ideas could be reduced to physics and chemistry.

The neurons are conscious, like all beings, and so, my Consciousness interacts with the Consciousness of neurons, of cells in general, and the Consciousness of molecules and atoms. Here is a completely new concept of causality, and explanation.

David Chalmers: The causality between mind and brain is a two-way street, the mind affects brain, the brain affects the mind. This new principle, Consciousness, is the only way to overcome Cartesian dualism, the mind/brain problem, and every other dichotomy as well.

And so, there are not two different things, mind and brain, but there is only one, and one explanatory principle, Consciousness. My Consciousness is aligning the Consciousness of neurons, of other cells in the body, of molecules and atoms. Throughout Consciousness

interacting with Consciousness and with it, completely new concepts of causality, and explanation, challenging the whole reductive explanatory edifice of modern science.

11. And now, Descartes

Descartes laid the thought foundations for modern science and the whole of the modern world, in a couple of nights, when he was travelling with the Army, and found himself stranded in a foreign town, in a bare room lit by a candle, with nothing to do but think. It isn't clear that "modern professional philosophers," with their grants, their reputations, their coteries of students, can do any better.

Descartes considered clear and distinct ideas a sign of truth, and he surely had them. If we can be clear about the basic issues, it owes to the fact that Descartes was so clear.

Now I tell you something about Descartes you may not know. In the *Mediations*, Descartes was a dualist, but there are minds and bodies, and he spent a great deal of his time on how they interact.

But Descartes' Age, and the following 300 years through this present moment, has been high on "Cartesianism," on Descartes' concept of matter as simply the weighable and the measurable. And now this concept has truly run its course. It brought ourselves and the planet to the brink of extinction, and it needs to change. The human race has been trying to "control matter." The planet is not "matter," but living conscious spiritual beings like ourselves.

And by the end of his life, Descartes knew the truth. Descartes guided his whole life by his vivid dreams. Toward the end of his life he had this dream: He saw the Universe as a huge machine, and in the center of this machine, propelling the whole, was Consciousness.

Out of the shades and shadows and into the light of day.

12. The Principles of understanding

a. My first principle owes to a long habit over the years, of walking out of my back door into nature. I live in the great desert of Northern New Mexico at 7,000 feet, ancient trees, meadows, hills, and snowcapped mountains just beyond, the space, the Light, the silence, and the stars---and asking of myself: What am I really seeing, what am I really looking at, in the Earth around me? When William Harvey, who discovered the circulation of the blood, first saw a beating heart, he had no idea of what he was looking at. That is where we are in our concept of nature, and of the Universe.

b. And so, after centuries of fruitless search, not all of it in vain, we finally have the right fundamental axiom, to make sense out of the Universe, and with it Ourselves.

Einstein thought we were schoolboys playing on a beach, that we could never know the Universe, I say: Dare to believe the Universe is simple, complex but not complicated, we are part and parcel, in and of, the Universe that we are trying to know, and we can know it. And our own

Consciousness, rightly questioned and understood, may give us insight into the essential features of any and all Consciousness.

Evolution makes us continuous with everything else, and so I propose "to make an evolutionary extension backwards and a reduction upwards." Consciousness would not be in us, unless it is also in cells and molecules. We are unique, not in being the only being with Consciousness, but in being the only place in the Universe where we can access "the inner side of things."

We are simply an instant of the greater Universe, what we find in Ourselves, is there in everything else, and our consciousness, rightly questioned and understood, may show us the essential features of any and all Consciousness.

Is this anthropomorphism? Hegel: Were the Greek gods anthropomorphic? They were not anthropomorphic enough. And so, with this new fundamental axiom, Consciousness, I propose that we can finally get things right.

c. And so, here is a new metaphysics, a new understanding of the whole concept of matter, so very many centuries in the making, based on Consciousness. And with it, rethinking the Earth, and our relationships to her, rethinking civilization itself, that may help us contend with the crisis we have caused for the planet.

What is new and different about this new metaphysics: It is based, not on physics, or cosmology, the place where new world views generally come from, but on the Life Sciences. And then, whereas the male mind has tended to emphasize our difference from everything else, I emphasize our likeness, and what we share with all other beings on the planet, who are in fact, just like us, conscious spiritual beings in physical expression.

d. Now, my friend of Consciousness, that is my rewrite of what you call "the material world," in a way that can explain Consciousness. You asked me in your letter, do you have a new ontology? And you gave me a list of various ontologies---monism, dualism, materialism, realism, idealism, mysticism, spiritual-ness, panscychism, pantheism, deism are some of them.

What ontology does my new theory of Consciousness subscribe to? Well, all of them. All have a place within this new metaphysical understanding, some aspect of the greater Reality, with a place for all of them.

At present there is an intense debt between panscychism and idealism. There are no contradictions between these two terms. Everything has Consciousness, is an expression of Consciousness, and Consciousness is organized and focused through ideas. So where is the difficulty? Many thinkers believe that panscychism alone would easily lapse into materialism, that they are determined to reject.

The truth is that most idealists have no comprehension whatsoever of what ideas really are, or how ideas interact with matter. Neither does materialism have any concepts of what matter really is. Empiricism holds that the world arounds us is what's real, and indeed, no matter how far out into space our theories go, ultimately, they show their effects here in this world. The real question: What are we really looking at in the empirical world? Things? Living beings? Living conscious spiritual beings? Incarnations of Spirit.

Consciousness, the new principle. Everything has it, and all of the true explanatory terms are in it. And it is subjectivity all the way down. It is Consciousness all the way down, and it is Consciousness even farther down, completely beyond the physical world.

And so, all of these terms: Panscychism, everything has Consciousness; monism, there is only one principle, not two; idealism, ideas are organizing principles in this new Universe picture; realism, Consciousness is the ultimate Reality, the empirical world, the material world, is Consciousness stepped down into physical form, all living beings around us are expressions of Consciousness; pantheism, the Consciousness that the Universe essentially is, is the Consciousness of Spirit, that Spirit truly is divine, and sacred throughout, something the Native peoples have always known.

And so, the mystical, the spiritual, has to do with the way we are able to experience the Universe around us. And in this new Universe picture, as I shall lay out, Spirit is everywhere.

And so, dualism. There are dualisms of standpoint, but not of ultimate principles, as Descartes maintained. Let me make this clear. There are two standpoints on Reality. The neurophysiologist is probing the brain of a patient, with electrodes, all he sees on his measuring devices are brain waves, electrical spikes, molecules and atoms.

What he does not know, is that the patient, is actually thinking of a folk song in which a goat has just eaten three red shirts from off the line, and in punishment, is now tied to a train track, facing an oncoming train, and has coughed up the red shirts, and is flagging down the train. All of this incredible inner life, that we know in ourselves, if the patient had not said nothing about this, the neurophysiologist would have never even suspected its existence.

This is our stance toward the whole of nature, we see electrical spikes, physics and chemistry, everywhere, it never occurs to us to allow that ideas, images, and symbols are also there. We have no access to the inner side of nature, and for the last 300 years of Cartesian philosophy have never even suspected its existence.

And so, we have two standpoints on nature, or ourselves, one process, one reality, being seen, as it were, from two different sides, from without, and from within.

There is only one term for the Universe, Consciousness, manifesting in two modes, Consciousness in Form, i.e. the physical world around us, and Consciousness Formless. And all of the true attributes and properties of the Universe, and the true laws of the Universe, belong to Consciousness.

The Mystics say that there is only one ultimate law of Consciousness: Consciousness must create, and it will turn itself inside out to do so.

Consciousness is also the bases for the law of Life. In this Universe, intent is everywhere, and intent works. We can use our intent to alter the Consciousness of the Universe around us, to bring us what we want. And the law of Life is the law of Consciousness: What you focus on, you get, wanted or not.

The poet Goethe: Clarify your purpose, and it is as if the whole Universe gets behind you to help you realize this.

Jesus: Believe you have what you ask for, and it shall be yours.

And what is it really all about for us? Something to do with differentiation in Oneness, something to do with Love, and something to do with Joy. And I dare say that in this Universe, necessity is not the ironclad necessity of the physical forces, that function blind, but the true necessities of the Universe are born of Joy. Does mathematics produce the bright spirits of animals, or do the bright spirits of animals make use of mathematics, for their own purposes? At this point, no one really knows.

Matter and mechanisms there are, but they are in the service of higher casualties, of purposes we want to realize, of ends to be achieved, in fact, in the service of ideas. My artist friend Kathleen: I wanted to make the tree in my painting really stand out, and so I got a certain kind of paper, and folded it in these ways....

The Universe originates in something like intelligence, Love, and creativity. Whitehead believed the laws of physics were a description of the habits of matter, i.e., they originated in freedom.

Richard Feynman won his Nobel prize for something he learned at play. In our physical development, all of our most important lessons are acquired through play. And so, I daresay that the Universe originates in something like creative play among Consciousness vibrations, and even something like fun. What? Something like fun going on down there? Never!

Matter, the weighable and the measurable, extended in space and time, is an Appearance of something more Real, Consciousness. And all the true laws of the Universe, its characteristics, properties, and attributes, belong to Consciousness. And so, the whole of science has finally reached the starting gate.

The Universe is not a machine, but animate, awake, and animating from the very "Beginning." And how does it all work? By a kind of alignment, a resonance among like vibrations of Consciousness, like well-tuned strings on a guitar. This attraction of like for like, wholes in the macro world as well: Birds of a feather flock together.

And this new Universe picture has a place for life after death. The near-death experience drives a wedge between matter and Consciousness---Consciousness is separable from matter---and opens the way to the possibility of life after death.

The old paradigm was matter, the weighable measurable the extended in space and time, utterly devoid of inner life, of feelings, thoughts or emotions. This paradigm has brought us to the brink of our own extinction, and it needs to change. The new paradigm is Consciousness, everything has it, and all of the true causalities, the explanatory principles, are in it. And I propose that with this term Consciousness, every intractable human problem, in science or in the modern world, will go down like a line of dominos before it.

13. Archimedes

Give me a place to stand, and I will move the Earth, give me a leaver long enough and I will move the world

And now: The miracle of all miracles. The Tucson Conference 2016, has changed its name, it now calls itself the "Science of Consciousness." From its website, I see new faces, and new names, but the basic assumptions still prevail: How does matter give rise to emotions, ideas, and experience? To Consciousness? It doesn't, but at least the name is right.

And now: Christof Koch. Remember that Christof had two problems with his understanding of Consciousness. First, he could not see how Consciousness emerges from non-conscious elements. Well, it doesn't, the basic elements of the Universe are actually Consciousness units. And the second problem he had, is his conviction that Consciousness was inseparable from matter.

What the near-death experience shows is that Consciousness is separable from matter, opening the door to a whole new Universe picture, with new fundamental terms, new causalities.

And now, his work with neurons has lead him to call a certain kind of neuron "a concept cell," and is beginning to use the term Idealism, without yet spelling out the fullness of what Idealism really means. But since energy follows thought, the field of Consciousness studies is getting itself into the right ballpark.

14. A brief return to our three-dimensional world

I end this work by briefly returning to our three-dimensional world. Einstein believed that space and time were not ultimately real. As some modern thinkers say, "simply the rules of the game for functioning in the physical dimension of reality."

Immanuel Kant held a similar view. He conceived of space and time as forms of our own understanding, as though we were wearing purple glasses, and so saw everything as purple. In a nutshell he considered that the mind contributed so much to its own knowing, that we could not know "things in themselves, noumenal reality," or the Real, in itself, but only as it appeared through our distorted lenses, but only as it appeared to us through our senses.

I have described modern science and the three-dimensional world, as Euclidean to non-Euclidean Geometry, a partial truth in a greater knowing. Kant called modern science "empirically real, but transcendentally ideal." That is, true as far as it goes, but ultimately, it cannot know the Truth. The Real is beyond us.

Modern skepticism about knowing owes to Kant. Kant said that Hume awakened him from his "dogmatic slumber." Hume again: All we see in nature is one event following after another, wherein lies the necessity? But Kant was in an even greater dogmatic slumber with respect to the Earth. At several places in his work *The Critique of Pure Reason*, he mentioned the view that nature is something without Consciousness. He is clearly operating on Descartes model of the self: We are minds in bodies perceiving things.

I have rewritten Descartes concepts of nature, that Earth is a continuum of many forms of Consciousness, of which our own is one, interconnected, interrelated, intersubjective, Oneness and One. There is a profound identity between ourselves and all other beings, and the greater Universe. We all "live and move and have our beings" among the Real all of the time. We have ways of knowing, through our bodies senses souls' spirits and deep psyches far beyond the pale of mind, reason, or perception through the physical senses. And oh, that is where the bliss is.

The real question for the senses is what is behind, or within, what we see, what we hear. The senses are channels to us for conscious beings. Matter around us appears to be "things" "the discreet separate and disconnected" interacting mechanistically. In fact, nature is a domain of many intersecting fields of Consciousness, that we can feel and know directly. Words we hear from others, physical vibrations, <u>have a meaning</u>, their content, that any onlooker of physical reality would be unable to fathom.

We have many other ways of knowing, then through sense perception. Kant thought that we are minds in bodies perceiving things, and could never know the Real. I will propose that we are Spirit in a body, and we can know anything. And that the form/matter distinction coming from Aristotle and St. Thomas Aquinas, should really be the Spirit/matter distinction, and there you have it.

And so, we rewrite the core of Western philosophy, the form/matter distinction. And we also revive the Cartesian corpse, done in by both philosophy and science for so long. Socrates new about mechanical explanation, the theory of Anaxagoras, that he describes in prison. Plato knew all about the chance and necessity Universe, in The Laws, he contrasts two different ways of explaining the Universe, it either comes into being through chance and necessity, or by Art.

The past 300 years of Cartesian science have been the most arid time of our history for the human Spirit. And so, at this point, we are free to put on a fresh new spiritual way of thinking, and work it out.

And so, Socrates: Many are the thyrsus-bearers, few, the Mystics. The Mystics: The awakened ones walking the path of the perfect, in Oneness.

And if Immanuel Kant had read the Mystics, of all cultures, who virtually agree on everything, on the Consciousness Universe, instead of the theologians of his day, who agreed on just about nothing, we would be living in a different world today.

15. Consciousness is the key, the missing piece of the puzzle

It is the key to new, true, causalities, new ways of knowing, not by dissection and analysis, but Consciousness to Consciousness, Spirit to Spirit, and Soul to Soul. New ways of being and seeing; it is the key to the crisis we have caused for the planet, and the way out, enabling us to come into alignment with the truth of the Biosphere; the key to all that most concerns us, our highest aspirations, for the Real, and for Spirit.

Here is a new theory of Consciousness, and with it a new metaphysical base for the whole of the modern world, the Reappearance of the Goddess and the Divine Feminine.

And in all of my works, I spell out this new metaphysics, based on Consciousness, and what it means, for the Universe, the Earth, Ourselves, and Spirit. Of who, what and where Spirit is, that we may connect with Spirit everywhere. And I offer an interpretation of where we are in our history, this present moment of historical grace, and these tumultuous times in which we live, the return of the Goddess and the Divine Feminine, the Reappearance of the Feminine in history, the Advent of Women, this great Awakening, as of springtime after a long dark winter, the Second Coming.

Epilogue

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1. And so, now what about Origins, what is really going on down in the depths of the Universe, to give us this incredible array of all the bright beings who share the planet with us, the birds, the flowers, and all the other animals? Summer and fall, winter and spring? Day and night, sunset and dawn? Scientists speak of "the universal vacuum." Most people think that a vacuum is the total absence of anything, but this is not the scientific image.

The prevailing picture is of huge amounts of positive and negative energy, held in balance that cancels them out, until certain fluctuations upset the balance, and give rise to something like the Big Bang, and the evolving Universe, beginning with matter, and then Consciousness.

Now, this places a lot of responsibility on these positive and negative energies. Just what are they? Energy: The ability to do work. What does the work? What are we really seeing with our concept of energy? Love and strife? The masculine and the feminine? The yes and the no? The real power in the Universe clearly lies in these fluctuations. And the real issue is what causes these fluctuations.

It sounds like the atomist Democritus, explaining free will as "an atom swerved." If an atom could swerve, it is already beyond the determinism of nature. This is the latest version of the forces, pushes and pulls, that functions blind, the modern version of Newton's billiard balls, bouncing off one another in the void.

Just where is intelligence in this process? How does a "fluctuation" give rise to Love, to free will, to ethics, to Consciousness, a dazzling splendor of the Earth and the Universe that we know? To waking, awakened, amusement, fun, music, bewilderment, doubt, exaltation, wondering? There is clearly intelligence from the stars.

This view of Origins tends to be reductive, the Universe that pushes and pulls, and it is based on a two-termed model for the Universe, energy and matter. The three-termed version of the Universe, Consciousness/energy/matter gives us other options. In fact, Consciousness is more fundamental than either matter or energy, and it has completely different properties than energy, it is awake, aware, and Enspirited. It is Consciousness that makes energy intelligent, knowing what it is doing.

Matter, no matter how complex it gets, nor energy, can produce Consciousness, it is just the other way around. Consciousness is the more basic and fundamental term. The Universe is not a great sea of matter, dark or light, nor the iron clad necessity of the forces, the chance and

necessity Universe, but it is a sea of Consciousness, and a sea of meanings, intelligent and creative throughout. I suspect that the basic element of the Universe, of this Consciousness Universe, are something like concepts, and not things.

The male mind has shown a marked preference for dead universes and a dead earth, as something devoid of Consciousness. Matter, whatever it is, has no Consciousness. And for the male mind, our Universe consists of forces, pushes and pulls, that function blind. It is all there in Freud, we are pushed and pulled about, and the victims of genes, drives, and childhood. But the deeper causality, that I will spell out in terms of reincarnation, (see Part 2) is that we chose our childhoods, our parents, our physical bodies, in order to serve and further our own life purposes.

We come here with reasons for being here, with life purposes, abilities to develop, goals to be achieved. And so, there is a higher causality that includes and embraces all of these blind forces that function through pushes and pulls.

The idea that everything originates in huge quantities of positive and negative energy, again, that function blind, appears attractive to the male mind, and would seem to be gender biased. In some sense, this may well be how men experience testosterone, overwhelming quantities of energy, overpowering and overwhelming.

Present day science is based on a great many article of faith, the deepest being that the Universe originates in non-conscious elements, that somehow along the way produce Consciousness. This is the modern version of Cartesian matter, truly, the headless horseman. The faith that atoms bouncing off one another in the void, can give rise to Consciousness, or even all the rich realities of the Universe that we know.

What is missing in this Universe account, is what Aristotle called final causality, "that for the sake of which." Aristotle had four causes, the material cause, the efficient cause, the formal cause, and the final cause. And it is the final cause that makes the whole process intelligible.

Modern science has no final cause, and in fact, with reductive explanation, has made the material cause the whole cause, and takes matter as the source of everything that happens, and the source of all.

The faith of modern science, is that small bits of matter floating around in the Universe, will get together to form a cosmos, through pushes and pulls. I doubt that this is the case, matter, no matter how complex it gets, will not produce Consciousness. And so, science needs to be three termed, matter/energy/Consciousness, and then we can make sense out of just about everything.

While we are in three-dimensional existence, the ultimate mysteries are probably beyond us, but certain essential features, given in glances and glimpses, may give us "likely story" of what is really going on down in the depths of Being.

And so, here is what the mystics say. According to the Mystics, the fundamental units of the Universe are Consciousness units, Consciousness vibrations.

The original source is a great sea of Love, that is crisscrossed by vibrations. These vibrations are endowed with Consciousness, frequency, Love and intent. "Like vibrations," "dance together to see what they can make." Consciousness vibrations give rise to ideas. "Bundles of like

vibrations" are Ideas, ideas have the intent to manifest, either physically or purely spiritually, and so they do.

What is occurring in the depths of the Universe, and in our lives, and our world, is a kind of resonance, frequency, and vibrations have to do with movement, what is happening in the attraction in like for like, is not the kind of attraction between negative and positive. It is the kind of harmonizing that tuning guitar strings represent, a kind of alignment, and a resonance between like forms of movement.

And we see these kinds of attraction everywhere, like in harmony with like. And so, ideas relate to one another, and they enable us to know. Knowing is a kind of resonance between the ideas that a tree embodies, and our own Consciousness, so that Aristotle was able to say: The soul in knowing, becomes in a way all things.

This Universe is filled with these kinds of attractions of like for like. Consciousness vibrations are pre-Consciousness on the way to Form. This Universe is filled with creative voids, pure potential, therefore not the absence of everything, nor blind energy. A potential is already something.

These ideas differ from Plato's ideas, in that they need no half-god to transform them into reality, but their active principle is in themselves. The Universe is like a huge dance floor, where many couples dance harmoniously. And ideas are really very much like selves, not the eternal and unchanging patterns of Plato, they change, witness the world.

And some ideas give rise to other ideas, a form of reproduction not generally seen.

Ideas are of every kind, some are long lived, some short lived, some are vibrations "densely packed," some of them rarer. And so, between the opposites, mind/body, Spirit/matter, are deep unities, both are the two poles of one continuum, densely packed, we call it matter, loosely packed we call it Spirit, and recognize it as pure free creative potential.

And the Mystics say, there is only one law of Consciousness: Consciousness must create, and it will turn itself inside out to do so.

And the Mystics have this principle: As above, so below.

That is something like what is taking place in the micro world, as ramifications for the macro world. All structures of the Universe are formed of Consciousness, all of the properties and attributes of the Universe are those of Consciousness, all the laws of the Universe are laws of Consciousness.

In this Universe, intent works. We can use our intent to alter the Consciousness of the Universe around us, to bring us what we want. And the law of life is the law of Consciousness: What you focus on, you get, whether wanted or not.

The poet Goethe: Clarify your purpose, and it is as if the whole Universe gets behind you to help you realize this.

Jesus: Believe you have what you want, and it shall be yours.

And what is it really all about for us? Something to do with differentiation in oneness, something to do with Love, and something to do with joy.

The Universe originated in something like intelligence, Love, and creative play, and I daresay, something like fun. What? Something like fun going on down there? Never!

And it originated in freedom. Whitehead considered the laws of nature to be "a description of the habits of matter." That is, they originated in freedom.

And again, Whitehead: "The only way to mitigate mechanism, and our mechanical view of things, is to show that it is not mechanism." Mechanism is the outer expression of different forms of Consciousness interacting.

Consciousness studies have finally reached the starting date, and Chalmers and others accept the idea of Consciousness units, Consciousness vibrations, an immense problem of how they combine.

How does anything combine? The elements of the periodic table, through sharing electrons? Or ourselves? How does one of us combine with others of us, through shared ideas? Through shared vision? Take yourself as a Consciousness vibration, and observe how you interact with other Consciousness vibrations, be they a tree, or an animal, or another person? The essential features of any and all Consciousness are there from the very beginning. And in fact, it is all pretty simple.

Well, here is a likely story of Origins, with radical implications for how we think about everything, surprise, play, intelligence and creativity, there in the Universe from the very beginning. Perhaps it's no accident that Feynman got his Nobel Prize from something he discovered at play.

There is no dualism among fundamental principles, but only of standpoints, where we are looking from inside our various views of the Universe, inward or outward.

Richard Feynman, toward the end of his life: Maybe the whole thing is wrong.

The whole of present day science is based on Appearances, on taking the Appearances to be the real, whereas they are in fact, and expression of Consciousness. The whole of the great reductive explanatory edifice of modern science is in fact a description of Appearances, and many of its basic terms are constructs.

Matter, the weighable and the measurable, extended in space and time, is an appearance of something more real, Consciousness. And all the true laws of the Universe, its characteristics, properties, and attributes, belong to Consciousness. And so, the whole of science has finally reached the starting gate. The Universe is not a machine, but animate, awake, and animating from the very "Beginning."

And of course, the near-death experience drives a wedge between matter and Consciousness, Consciousness is separable from matter, and opens the way to the truth of life after death.

About the Author

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I have been on the trail of metaphysics and the truth of the Universe, from an early age. I grew up in the household of a physicist, in the conviction that every question had an answer, because physicists can answer so many questions that small children ask, and that science had them. Einstein's fascination was Light, mine has been Life.

As a teenager I loved and raised animals. What happened when a small wounded bird lay warm in my hand, and then gradually stopped breathing and became stiff and cold? I wanted to understand the nature of Life, and followed my questions into studies in the Life Sciences, at McGill, and then into graduate work at Rockefeller University in New York (1960-1965). Like all my generation of science students, I believed that the answers I sought lay in the molecular dimension of things, and followed my questions downward. When I arrived there, I was deeply disappointed, here I was in an undifferentiated field of molecules, with no understanding of Life whatsoever, and moreover, had lost the whole cat on the way down. My fellow students were satisfied, I was not, and I took to notebooks to figure out why, asking myself such questions as what it is to explain, what is knowing, what is an experiment. I finally came to the conclusion that science could not explain the Universe, that all scientific explanations ultimately rested on "unexplained explainers." And so, after some years of dislocation, I took up the study of philosophy at the University of Toronto in order to find out, if science could not explain the Universe, then what could.

By the time I was 40, I had acquired most of the learning of these times, in science, philosophy, Great Books (a tutor at St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico) and most of the world's spiritual traditions, and I went away into a 14 year wilderness life in Canada, in order to work the whole thing out for myself. By the time I was 48, I knew "what was what," and made my first pass at metaphysics with Earth Age: A New Vision of God, the Human, and the Earth, published in 1994, republished in 2005 and then, three more books spelling out the basic principles, published between 2003-2006. I sent my final work of The Reign of the Holy Spirit, to press, published in 2006, and then one week later, began to meet with a small group of women, to discuss the film "What the Bleep Do We Know," and then everything else. And I feel that at that point, my real life began. When I tell you where I live, you will understand why I think as I do. I have spent much time in both academia and cities, then in a wilderness life in Canada, and then, in 2002, without ever having intending it, I found myself back down here in New Mexico, in the high desert country of northern New Mexico, the space, the light, the silence and the stars, the winds, the rains, and the snows. I live in an old adobe house, I walk out of my back door into a grove of ancient trees, the kind that uphold the entire biosphere, beyond them, meadows, with tall grasses. To the East is a long line of blue hills, above which rise the sun and the full moon, to the South I can see a range of purple snow-capped mountains, and to the West, the rim of an ancient extinct volcano.

I found my basic principles with the help of the male thought traditions, and then with this small group of women, we worked out much more fully all of these new terms and new fundamental ideas, a whole new paradigm, for the world and modern science. At some point, I realized that in this small group of women, the raccoons who show up every night to be fed—we have ruined their habitat, we owe them their living, the coyotes howling in the foothills, these vast solitudes, this great desert, that Spirit had given me, what Spirit gave Heidegger in the Black Forest: A privileged vantage point on Being. And I began to pay attention. I spend a great deal of time outside, walking, I can go for days without seeing another person, with finally, no other mind between myself and the Universe, with all my questions from science, from philosophy, and indeed from childhood, intact, I pester Spirit for answers, and they come.

I am proposing a new fundamental term for the Universe, Consciousness, a term that has emerged in modern science, that points completely beyond present-day science to a whole new Universe picture, based on Consciousness, and working out what this new principle means for the modern world, every department of thought, and civilization itself. I have a very long work of these ideas, in four major sections: Science, Consciousness and the Universe, The True Meaning of the Near Death Experience, A New Copernican Revolution; The Earth A Feminine Vision for the World; Ourselves, The Truth of Human Identity, Reincarnation and What it Really Means; Spirit, Who What and Where Spirit Is, that the Native North American people had it right. I also have a whole set of short articles that explain and make clearer the ideas contained in this work. All of my works address our present crisis for the planet and they indicate the way out, beginning with a rewrite of the scientific image of nature as something devoid of Consciousness. Nature consists of conscious living spiritual beings like ourselves, let the barriers we have placed between us and everything else go down.

I have been highly educated in the great spiritual writings of the past, but I speak and write in the vernacular. I am angling for the hearts and minds of the Earth plane. I have tried to make my own ideas clear and simple, available to all. I look forward to your response, and your feedback.

Lorna Green, PhD

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(The End)