



"In contrast with many of the oracles of science, Abrams and Primack argue for an interpretation of contemporary cosmology suggestive of human significance in a universe filled with meaning. They do so for the edification of a general audience, with elegant prose, provocative images, and stunning online animations."—William Grassie, Metanexus Institute

THE NEW UNIVERSE AND
THE HUMAN FUTURE
How a Shared Cosmology Could Transform the World
Nancy Ellen Abrams and Joel R. Primack

Two cutting-edge thinkers—one a cultural philosopher and the other a leading astrophysicist—combine their abilities to present a new picture of the universe with critical relevance for our time

After a four-century rupture between science and the questions of value and meaning, this groundbreaking book presents an explosive and potentially life-altering idea: if the world could agree on a shared creation story based on modern cosmology and biology—a story that has just become available—it would redefine our relationship with Planet Earth and benefit all of humanity, now and into the distant future.

Written in eloquent, accessible prose and illustrated in magnificent color throughout, including images from innovative simulations of the evolving universe, this book brings the new scientific picture of the universe to life. It interprets what our human place in the cosmos may mean for us and our descendants. It offers unique insights into the potential use of this newfound knowledge to find solutions to seemingly intractable global problems such as climate change and unsustainable growth. And it explains why we need to “think cosmically, act globally” if we’re going to have a long-term, prosperous future on Earth.

◆ The Terry Lectures Series

NANCY ELLEN ABRAMS, an attorney, cultural philosopher, and lecturer at the University of California, Santa Cruz, has worked for the Ford Foundation and the Office of Technology Assessment of the U.S. Congress. JOEL R. PRIMACK, Distinguished Professor of Physics at the University of California, Santa Cruz, is one of the principal creators of the modern theory of the universe on the grand scale. *The New Universe and the Human Future* is based on the Terry Lectures that the authors gave at Yale University in October 2009. They live in Santa Cruz, CA.

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