

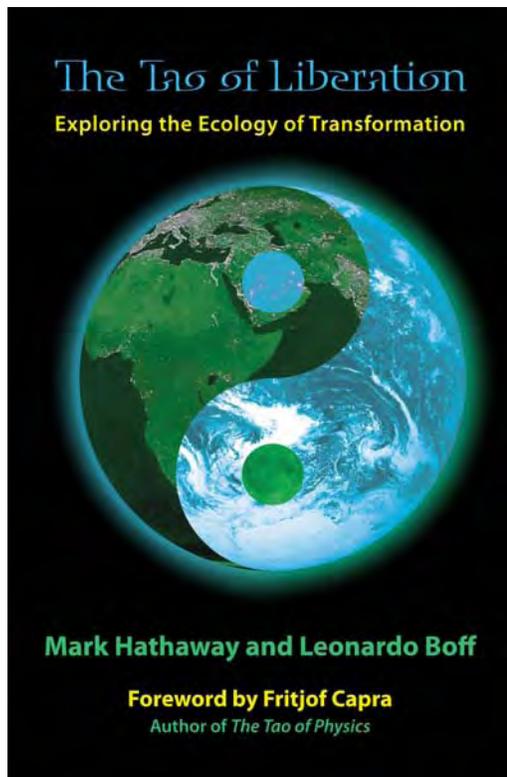
“A path breaking book which will surely become an enduring classic”

THE TAO OF LIBERATION

Exploring the Ecology of Transformation

By Mark Hathaway and Leonardo Boff

Forward by Fritjof Capra



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Ecology, Justice, Spirituality, Cosmology

Mark Hathaway is an adult educator who researches and writes about the interconnections between ecology, economics, social justice, spirituality, and cosmology. He has extensive experience in ecumenical eco-justice work and has studied math, physics, spirituality, and transformative education.

Leonardo Boff is Brazil's best-known theologian, author of more than sixty books on liberation theology, ecology, and spirituality including *Ecology and Liberation* and *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*. In 2001 he received the prestigious Right Livelihood Award.

Today, humanity stands at an historic crossroads. Deepening poverty and accelerating ecological destruction challenge us to act with wisdom and maturity: How can we move toward a future where meaning, hope, and beauty can truly flourish?

The Tao of Liberation is a search for this path, the wisdom needed to effect profound transformations in our world. Hathaway and Boff describe this wisdom using the ancient Chinese word Tao, meaning a way or path leading to harmony, peace, and right relationship. The Tao can also be understood as the wisdom that lies at the very heart of the flowing structure of the universe, encapsulating the essence of its purpose.

The book begins by asking: How does transformation occur? Or, perhaps more precisely: Why is it so difficult to effect the changes so urgently needed to save the living Earth community? It then embarks on a journey of exploration through such diverse fields as economics, psychology, cosmology, and spirituality in search for the wisdom – or Tao – needed to move away from our current destructive path and instead toward authentic liberation: A way leading to ever-greater communion, diversity, and creativity.

Find out more and order the book at:

www.taoofliberation.com

“A path-breaking book. . . which will surely become an enduring classic.”— **Brian Swimme, *The Hidden Heart of the Cosmos***

“I love this book... Together Hathaway and Boff have written a transcendent work of eco-liberation and planetary survival.”
— **Elizabeth May, O.C., Leader, Green Party of Canada**

“A monumental contribution toward tackling the global crisis.” —
David Hallman, Advisor to the WCC Climate Change Program

“A sweeping, comprehensive and poetic manifesto of social and ecological change.... An interspiritual tour de force!”— **Neil Douglas-Klotz, *Prayers of the Cosmos***

“Boff and Hathaway give birth to a great marriage between liberation theology & creation spirituality.”— **Matthew Fox, *Original Blessing***

“The Tao of Liberation is a magnificent and timely book, the kind we most need to read in these times of multiple, human-made converging crises.” — **Miguel d'Escoto, Former President of the UN General Assembly (2008-9)**

“There is no other book that has so carefully identified the new cosmology of Thomas Berry and Brian Swimme as a liberating context for a sustainable future. This is a masterful and important work.”— **Mary Evelyn Tucker, Forum on Religion and Ecology**

Detailed Contents • The Tao of Liberation: Exploring the Ecology of Transformation

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Praise for *The Tao of Liberation*

"...Readers will find in this book A wealth of ideas and deep insights about the fundamental shift in human consciousness and the radical transformations in our world that are now required.... Rather than seeing the transition to a sustainable society primarily in terms of limits and restrictions, Hathaway and Boff eloquently propose a new and compelling conception of sustainability as liberation." – **Fritjof Capra** (Author of *The Tao of Physics* and *Belonging to the Universe*)

"Boff and Hathaway deftly blend the wisdom of the world's spiritual traditions and social science. This is a must read for all of those who seek to understand the critical nexus between the option for the poor and the option for the Earth." – **Stephen Bede Scharper** (Author of *Redeeming the Time* and co-author of *The Green Bible*)

"A sweeping, comprehensive and poetic manifesto of social and ecological change, as viewed through the eyes of a prominent liberation theologian in partnership with a hands-on spiritual change activist. They weave a vision of not only cultural change, but also spiritual transformation through a renewed, and renewable, relationship with the entire network of creation." – **Neil Douglas-Klotz** (Author of *Prayers of the Cosmos* and *The Sufi Book of Life*)

"I welcome the dimensions of ecology, cosmology and feminist philosophy applied astutely to the crisis of western capitalism and culture we are all undergoing at this time as well as the deep ecumenism which is so beautifully and aptly invoked in the use of the great *Tao Te Ching* throughout the text." – **Matthew Fox** (Author of *Original Blessing* and *Creation Spirituality*)

"This book brings together the insights of cosmology, ecology, and spirituality in a fresh and powerful way. With their creative collaboration, Hathaway and Boff offer us a remarkable new synthesis which will surely become an enduring classic." – **Brian Swimme** (Author of *The Hidden Heart of the Cosmos* and co-author of *The Universe Story*)

"I love this book. Its inspiration lives up to its ambition – leading the reader through some of the most complex issues of our age (from globalization and the current recession to climate change and loss of species) while illuminating a path forward through religion and spirituality. Together Boff and Hathaway have written a transcendent work of eco-liberation and planetary survival." – **Elizabeth May** (Leader of the Green Party of Canada)