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## Ecozoic Annotated Bibliography

Compiled and annotated by Ellen LaConte and Herman F. Greene

This is the beginning of an Ecozoic annotated bibliography organized around the questions, if we are moving into an ecological age “Where are we?” and “How did we get here?” The books under “Where are we?” belong with Vol. 4, No. 1 (2004) of this *Reader*. This part of the annotated bibliography will be inserted into that issue in the web version of the *Reader*, which may be viewed at [www.ecozoicstudies.org](http://www.ecozoicstudies.org). Similar annotated bibliographies will appear in the next two issues of the *Reader* on “Where are we going?” and “How do we get there?” We hope readers of this publication will recommend additional works that have informed and influenced them. Bibliographical information (authors, editors, edition, publisher, city of publication, and date of publication) may be sent to [ecozoic@mindspring.com](mailto:ecozoic@mindspring.com). Please add annotations or longer reviews. The editorial staff of the *Ecozoic Reader* generally follows *The Chicago Manual of Style* for citation forms.

### “Where Are We?”

**Ayres, Ed.** *God's Last Offer: Negotiating for a Sustainable Future*. New York: Four Walls Eight Windows, 1999.

Ayres identifies four “megaphenomena”: (1) the carbon dioxide spike (leading to climate change), (2) the extinction spike (as a result of which we may be undergoing the sixth extinction in Earth's history), (3) the consumption spike (humans are consuming more and more of Earth's resources and produce), and (4) the population spike (human population has grown by 400% since 1900). He calls for massive realignment of our education, industry and life in response to “God's last offer.”

**Brzezinski, Zbigniew.** *The Grand Chessboard: American Primacy and Its Geostrategic Imperatives*. Philadelphia: Basic Books, 1997.

Carter's Secretary of State makes the neoconservative case for G.W. Bush's imperial strategy.

**Carson, Rachel.** *The Silent Spring*. Greenwich, CT: A Fawcett Crescent Book, 1962.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Dahl, Robert A.** *How Democratic Is the American Constitution?* Yale: Yale University Press, 2001.

See Ellen LaConte's review in this issue.

**Darley, Julian.** *High Noon for Natural Gas*. Vermont: Chelsea Green Publishers, 2004.

Darley compels us to consider that the theoretically most available fossil fuel is rapidly proving itself most available on the other side of the planet from where the biggest consumers want it. Consequences are suggested.

**De Rivero, Oswaldo.** *The Myth of Development: The Non-Viable Economies of the 21st Century*. Halifax, Nova Scotia: Fernwood, 2001.

Chilling. Clear. Imagine what it means to be living in a non-viable economy in a Global Economic Order that thinks it's the last word. A little like being an in-valid in a viable one. Economic globalization isn't good for the little guys. Here's why.

**Ehrlich, Paul and Anne.** *One With Nineveh: Politics, Consumption, and the Human Future*. Washington, DC: Island Press/Shearwater, 2004.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Frank, Thomas.** *One Market Under God: Extreme Capitalism, Market Populism and the End of Economic Democracy*. New York: Doubleday, 2000.

Accessible, quotable, compelling from the author who more recently wrote *What's the Matter with Kansas? How Conservatives Won the Heart of America*. Frank argues that Americans have confused extreme market capitalism with democracy. No longer is Wall Street the home of money grubbing oppressors, but rather of cool entrepreneurs with a mission to save the world.

**Harrison, Paul and Fred Pearce.** *AAAS Atlas of Population & Environment*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000.

This book shows how rates of human population growth, density, migration, resource consumption, habitat disruption and use of various technologies and chemicals affect the world's ecosystems. It is filled with data, maps, graphs and diagrams providing information both for experts in the field and lay people. It provides a starting point for understanding how much human population various regions of the world and the world as a whole can support.

**Hartmann, Thom.** *The Last Hours of Ancient Sunlight: The Fate of the World and What We Can Do Before It's Too Late.* New York: Three Rivers Press, 2004.

What it means when the culture at the top of the energy pyramid is about to use the energy up and also fatally abuse the planet with it, with a look at alternative models of living.

**Heinberg, Richard.** *The Party's Over: Oil, War, and the Fate of Industrial Societies.* British Columbia, Canada: New Society Publishers, 2003.

The most accessible of the spate of books about oil with the most supporting data and a realistic assessment of the utility of alternative energies in the current global market economy.

**Hertz, Noreena.** *The Silent Takeover: Global Capitalism and the Death of Democracy.* New York: Free Press, 2001.

A cogent, readable, prize-winning treatment of corporatism, WTO and trade agreements, consumerism, and the impact of market economics on socio-economic systems, people, and governance from the perspective of a young British prodigy.

**Kaplan, Robert D.** *The Coming Anarchy: Shattering the Dreams of the Post Cold War.* New York: Vintage Books, 2000.

Essays on scarcity, crime, overpopulation, tribalism and terrorism, genocide, the problematics of peace/war, and rough times in Africa, the Middle East, and Russia.

**Klare, Michael T.** *Resource Wars: The New Landscape of Global Conflict.* New York: Metropolitan Books/Henry Holt, 2001.

Note the date of the publication. He was and is right on the money. You can plot his predicted conflicts on a world map and see what is happening and what will happen.

**Korten, David C.** *When Corporations Rule the World.* San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc./West Hartford, CT: Kumarian Press, 1995

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Leakey, Richard and Roger Lewin.** *The Sixth Extinction: Patterns of Life and the Future of Humankind.* New York: Anchor Press, 1995.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Lechner, Frank J. and John Boli, eds.** *The Globalization Reader.* Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Books, 2003.

Essays that debate, explain, and assess political, economic, and cultural globalization and its impacts on environments, societies, women, policy, cultures, and developing nations; with suggestions for resistance.

**McKibben, Bill.** *The End of Nature, 2d ed.* New York: Anchor Books, 1999.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Mander, Jerry and Edward Goldsmith, eds.** *The Case Against the Global Economy and for a Turn Toward the Local.* San Francisco: Sierra Club Books, 1996.

Comprehensive, point-by-point analysis of the global economy for the lay-reader/environmentalist including essays by Wendell Berry, David Korten, William Greider, Jeremy Rifkin, and Maude Barlow.

**Meadows, Donella, Dennis Meadows, and Jorgen Randers.** *Beyond the Limits: Confronting Global Collapse, Envisioning a Sustainable Future.* Vermont: Chelsea Green Publishers, 1992.

This sequel to *Limits to Growth*, is still the best in its class. Its Scenario 1 is in play and shows us hitting all the walls by 2020. Its suggestions for "how we can support all the world's people adequately and sustainably long into the future" are still apt, despite the fact that we are heading straight into the worst-case scenario.

**Newbold, Heather, ed.** *Life Stories: World Renowned Scientists Reflect On Their Lives and the Future of Life on Earth.* Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000.

Effecting because each Earth-perceptive account grows out of an episode in the scientist's life when he or she fell in love with Earth for the first time.

**Paehlke, Robert C.** *Democracy's Dilemma: Environment, Social Equity, and the Global Economy.* Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2003.

See Ellen LaConte's review in this issue.

**Parenti, Michael.** *Against Empire.* San Francisco: City Lights Books, 1995.

A brilliant expose of the brutal realities of U.S. global domination. Even more timely now that the empire has shown itself willing to continually strike back.

**Peterson, Peter G.** *Running on Empty: How the Democrats and Republicans are Bankrupting our Future and What We Can Do About It.* New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2004.

This genuinely “fair and balanced” book makes horribly clear the degree to which current policies and recent American administrations have been bankrupting our children’s future. Coherent, pragmatic suggestions for how to haul in the long leash given to leaders.

**Pimm, Stuart L.** *The World According to Pimm: A Scientist Audits the Earth.* New York: McGraw-Hill, 2001.

See Herman Greene’s review in this issue.

**Rischar, Jean François.** *High Noon: 20 Global Problems, 20 Years to Solve Them.* Philadelphia: Basic Books, 2002.

The World Bank’s European vice-president takes a thought-provoking look at problems and possibilities. His analysis goes beyond the obvious and conventional.

**Roberts, Paul.** *The End of Oil: On the Edge of a Perilous New World.* Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 2004.

A good companion to *The Party’s Over* primarily because Roberts is not a died-in-the-wool critic of neo-conservative resource economics, yet he comes to the same conclusions as Heinberg. Fewer charts and less data, but a well-conceived interpretation of them.

**Sachs, Wolfgang, ed.** *The Development Dictionary: A Guide to Knowledge as Power.* London: Zed Books, 1992.

From an international perspective, a brilliant, alphabetical critique. Each author considers a term/topic like Equality, Market, Needs, Planning, Resource, Science, State, Technology. A precursor of and companion to Sach’s Planet Dialectics.

**Sachs, Wolfgang, ed.** *Planet Dialectics: Explorations in Environment and Development.* Halifax, Nova Scotia: Fernwood Books, 1999.

See Herman Greene’s review in this issue.

**Shiva, Vandana.** *Water Wars: Privatization, Pollution, and Profit.* Cambridge, MA: South End Press, 2002.

Though India is her home turf, it can and is happening in the United States, as well.

**Speth, James Gustave.** *Red Sky at Morning: America and the Crisis of the Global Environment.* New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2004.

See Herman Greene’s review in this issue.

**Thompson, W.I.** *At the Edge of History.* Aurora, CO: Lindisfarne Press, 1990.

Thompson isn’t an easy read but he’s, oh, so worth the trouble. Myth, history, the evolution of consciousness, poetry all meet in his mind and on the page as he imagines how we got to be who we are by looking at the things our minds produced to reveal who we are.

**United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, World Bank, and World Resources Institute.** *People and Ecosystems: The Fraying Web of Life.* Washington, D.C.: World Resources Institute, 2000.

See Herman Greene’s review in this issue.

**United Nations Human Settlements Programme.** *The Challenge of Slums: Global Report on Human Settlements, 2003.* London: Earthscan, 2003.

“The urbanization of poverty.” Shocking. Or maybe not. But it’s an issue Ecozoans cannot ignore. What are the dreams, stories, visions of the nearly 2 billion of us eke-sisting in conditions of diminishing returns, circumstances over which they have little or no control? Raises questions about redistribution and responsibility.

## How Did We Get Here?

**Adams, E. Maynard.** *Philosophy and the Modern Mind: A Philosophical Critique of Modern Western Civilization.* Lanham, MA: University Press of America, 1985.

See Herman Greene’s review in this issue.

**Beard, Charles A.** *An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution of the United States.* New Introduction by Forrest McDonald. New York: The Free Press, 1986.

See Ellen LaConte’s review in this issue.

**Berry, Wendell.** *The Unsettling of America: Culture & Agriculture.* San Francisco: Sierra Club Books, 1977.

See Herman Greene’s review in this issue.

**Bethell, Tom.** *The Noblest Triumph: Property & Prosperity Through the Ages.* New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 1998.

A look at property and property rights as they have improved the lot of many humans and been key to the establishment of liberal, republican, quasi-democratic governments like that in the United States. After reading this, I retained my sense, however, that property ought not to call the shots: human and animal rights trump property rights; democracy ought to trump what used to be called "personalty" — personal property as a key to power.

**Brague, Rémi.** *The Wisdom of the World: The Human Experience of the Universe in Western Thought.* Teresa Lavender Fagan, trans. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2003.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Braudel, Fernand.** *Civilization and Capitalism: 15th – 18th Century.* Siân Reynolds, trans. 3 vols. New York: Harper & Row, 1982-84.

Vividly and in fascinating detail encompasses the social, economic, cultural, and political transformation that swept Europe (Western civilization) from the pre-industrial late Middle Ages through the Renaissance and Enlightenment to the Industrial Revolution. Fascinating illustrations and anecdotal material. Makes it difficult to think we're special. (Vol. 1, *The Structures of Everyday Life*, gives an account of the lives of ordinary people; Vol. 2, *The Wheels of Commerce*, covers the growth of trade, commerce and markets; and Vol. 3, *The Perspective of the World*, looks at changes from the standpoint of global systems.)

**Clark, Mary E.** *In Search of Human Nature.* New York: Routledge, 2002.

A brilliant, monumental and unprecedented assessment and synthesis of cultural, emotional, consciousness, personal, community, and behavioral evolution. Turns over the "me, first" vision of human character.

**Cronon, William.** *Changes In the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England.* New York: Hill & Wang, 1983.

A crystalline and eye-opening look at the essential differences between European colonists' and Native Americans' perception of and relationship to land, ownership, life, resources, and environment. Reveals the divide between two dramatically different ways of living and, without politicking, what we can learn from the earlier, older way.

**Diamond, Jared.** *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fate of Human Societies.* New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1999.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Diamond, Jared.** *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed.* New York: Viking, 2005.

See Ellen LaConte's review in this issue.

**Donald, Merlin.** *Origins of the Modern Mind: Three Stages in the Evolution of Culture and Cognition.* Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1991.

Alone or as a companion piece to Mithen's *The Prehistory of the Mind*, this is a more thematic, explanatory, academic treatment of the evolution of our current level of consciousness. His categories are useful.

**Eisler, Riane.** *The Chalice and the Blade.* New York: Harper Collins, 1987.

See Ellen LaConte's review in this issue.

**Eldridge, Niles.** *Dominion.* Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 1995.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Flannery, Tim.** *The Eternal Frontier: An Ecological History of North American and Its Peoples.* New York: Grove Press, 2001.

See Connie Barlow's article in this issue and Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Glacken, Clarence J.** *Traces on the Rhodian Shore: Nature and Culture in Western Thought from Ancient Times to the End of the Eighteenth Century.* Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 1967.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Glendinning, Chellis.** *My Name is Chellis and I'm Recovering from Western Civilization.* Boston: Shambhala Publications, 1994.

How we got disconnected from the natural world and addicted to the consumptive, unecological one we've created, and how we can recover from it. A moving case for the synchronicity of the environmental and recovery movements, with solid spiritual grounding.



**Griffin, Susan.** *Woman and Nature: The Roaring Inside Her*. New York: Perennial Library/ Harper & Row, Publishers, 1978.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Hartmann, Thom.** *Unequal Protection: The Rise of Corporate Dominance and the Theft of Human Rights*. Emmaus, PA: Rodale, 2002.

How the United States got to the point of letting corporate "persons" trump the rights of human persons, what the consequences have been and what can be done about it, state by state. Fascinating and empowering. There's so much we don't know or misunderstand about our history, at our peril.

**Hesiod.** *Works and Days*. M. L. West, trans. London: Oxford World Classics, 1999.

The stress-effects on the first civilizations look an awful lot like the stress-effects on ours.

**Horwitz, Morton J.** *The Transformation of American Law: 1780-1860*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1977.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Jaynes, Julian.** *The Origin of Consciousness in the Breakdown of the Bicameral Mind*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1976.

Something of a cult classic in consciousness studies, Harvard's Jaynes predicates consciousness as we know it on the evolution of the parts of the brain that synchronized the two hemispheres, he suggests around 3000 years ago. He makes a very compelling case. History got interesting again.

**Lerner, Gerda.** *The Creation of Patriarchy*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1987.

An analysis of the oppression of women from the Neolithic period forward. Lerner argues this oppression is historical not natural and can be overcome by historical processes.

**McNeill, J. R.** *Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the Twentieth-Century World*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2000.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Mithen, Steven.** *The Prehistory of the Mind: The Cognitive Origins of Art and Science*. New York: Thames & Hudson, 1999.

An increasingly accepted theory of how our brains have changed our minds, several times, and how—biologically—we've come to think as we do. Good charts and illustrations.

**Polanyi, Karl.** *The Great Transformation: The Political and Ecological Origins of Our Time, 2d ed.* With a foreword by Joseph Stiglitz and a new introduction by Fred Bloch. Boston: Beacon Press, 2001. Original edition: New York: Farrar & Rinehard, 1944.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Ponting, Clive.** *A Green History of the World: The Environment and the Collapse of Civilizations*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1991.

One of the most useful and thorough of its kind. This book serves as a key resource for Pulitzer Prize-winner Jared Diamond's new book, *Collapse*.

**Porter, Roy.** *The Creation of the Modern World: The Untold Story of the British Enlightenment*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2000.

Called quite rightly a "sumptuous and spicy volume," Porter brings us the stories, personages, and underlying logics behind, for example, the "hedonic calculus" of radical individualism, untrammelled progress, education as a tool for character formation, the economic underpinnings of secularization, Protestant discipline, the disenchantment of nature, the culture of science and origins of political revolution. A delicious, foundational read.

**Price, T. Douglas and Anne Birgitte Gebauer, eds.** *Last Hunters, First Farmers: A New Perspective on the Prehistoric Transition to Farming*. Santa Fe, NM: School of American Research Press, 1995.

We didn't take up farming over night. It evolved, everywhere, a several-thousand-year learning curve and a lot of bad weather or swollen populations. Hunting and gathering was easier. Fascinating look at what our school books didn't tell us.

**Redman, Charles L.** *Human Impact on Ancient Environments*. Tucson, AZ: The University of Arizona Press, 1999.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Rolston, Holmes, III.** *Genes, Genesis, and God: Values and Their Origin in Natural and Human History.* Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1999.

Are spiritual, religious, and moral values genetic—natural? Or are they nurtured? Yes. Science and spirit meet in thoughtful dialogue.

**Said, Edward W.** *Culture and Imperialism.* New York: Vintage/Random House, 1994.

A classic analysis by a towering (recently deceased) figure of our time on how imperialism is as much a product of literature as of politics and economics. He analyzes nineteenth and twentieth century fiction and contemporary mass media to show how the Western voice has dominated imaginations and become the imperial culture.

**Sale, Kirkpatrick.** *The Conquest of Paradise.* New York: Plume/Penguin Books, 1991.

When Europeans exceeded the carrying capacity of their home continent, they had to import it from somewhere else and export some of their numbers to somewhere else: the Americas—Paradise—suffered the consequences of both kinds of grab and get. Sale's is rightfully a classic on the Columbian legacy.

**Schama, Simon.** *Landscape and Memory.* New York: Borzoi/Knopf, 1995.

The equivalent of a Thanksgiving feast of history from the standpoint of scenery. Schama gives an account of sacred places and landscapes that have given Western culture its sense of geographic identity, a mind's-eye view of Western culture. Where many histories are meals taken on a run by the objective intellect, this is a treat for the sensate, sensible, and sensitive imagination. Arcady and its endings lead in beautifully to Roy Porter's work.

**Shepard, Paul.** *The Others: How Animals Made Us Human.* Washington, D.C.: Shearwater/Island Press, 1996.

Compelling. Explores the "lavish beauty and terrible dysfunction of our relationship with the animal worlds," and charts the cause of the latter.

**Swimme, Brian and Thomas Berry.** *The Universe Story: From the Primordial Flaring Forth to the Ecozoic Era, A Celebration of the Unfolding of the Cosmos.* San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1992.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Tainter, Joseph A.** *The Collapse of Complex Societies.* Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1988.

Not one single society has failed to fail: here's why. Academic in style, but worth every brilliantly objective word. Tainter now writes as an ecological economist.

**Teilhard de Chardin, Pierre.** *The Human Phenomenon.* Sarah Appleton-Weber, trans. Brighton, UK: Sussex Academic Press, 1999.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.

**Toynbee, Arnold J.** *A Study of History.* Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 1946.

Still good after all these years. And, oh, the old guys could turn a fine sentence.

**Tudge, Colin.** *The Time Before History: 5 Million Years of Human Impact.* New York: Touchstone/Simon and Schuster, 1996.

Fascinating journey through pre-history, hominids and humans, bad boys and good societies, the fate of Neanderthals and first conquest of the Americas, unwitting extinctions, and the pressure at the end of Eden toward agriculture.

**Whitehead, Alfred North.** *Science and the Modern World.* New York: The Macmillan Company, 1925.

See Herman Greene's review in this issue.