

## *The Unexpected Universe*

*The Unexpected Universe* The unexpected universe The Unexpected Universe Faith Rising--Between the Lines How to Profit from Prophets Toward a Dialogue of Understandings Unexpected Universe Fantastic Numbers and Where to Find Them Jane's Phonetic Shorthand, a New & Complete System The Concord Saunterer The Explorer Loren Eiseley A Manual of Ethics World Authors Twentieth-century American Nature Writers Saturday Review Laughter in Appalachia The God Who Would Be Known Contemporary Literary Criticism Research and Services Bulletin Loren Eiseley Loren Eiseley Loren C. Eiseley David B. Bowman Maurice A. Fety Mary Ellen Pitts Loren Eiseley Tony Padilla Alfred Jones Andrew J. Angyal John Stuart Mackenzie John Wakeman Roger Thompson Loyal Jones John Marks Templeton Daniel G. Marowski Arizona State University, Bureau of Educational Research and Services

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no one has ever managed to make the pursuit of knowledge feel more soulful or more immediate than Loren Eiseley. Ben Cosgrove, the daily beast at the height of a distinguished career as a paleontologist, Loren Eiseley turned from fieldwork and scientific publication to the personal essay here in the unexpected universe. He displays his far reaching knowledge and searching curiosity about the natural world and the qualities that led many to hail him as a modern Thoreau. Fascinating accounts of the journeys of Odysseus, Captain Cook, and Charles Darwin frame Eiseley's more modest wanderings as a suburban naturalist attentive to the lives of small creatures. Sometimes he travels no further than the local dump and yet like Homer's hero or these great explorers he continually finds a universe not only queerer than we suppose but queerer than we can suppose.

drawing from his long experience as a naturalist, the author responds to the unexpected and symbolic aspects of a wide spectrum of phenomena throughout the universe. scrupulous scholarship and magical prose are brought to bear on such diverse topics as seeds, the hieroglyphs on shells, lost tombs, the goddess Circe, city dumps, and Neanderthal man.

this writing intends to rouse would-be believers to faith or enhance the faith of others through the adventure of modern fiction while taking note of the secularity of our era. the author insists the spirit of god has not departed the scene. the opening poem by Emily Dickinson tells all the truth but tells it slant. proposes the author's contention that the indirect discourse of fictional writers may welcome readers to faith's door in ways sermonistic speech never did. the modern authors chosen for this purpose are Isaac Dinesen, Annie Dillard, Kent Haruf, Loren Eiseley, Gary Trudeau, Garrison Keillor, William Golding, Walker Percy, Frederick Buechner, and Gabriel Marcel. having explained one work each by these noted authors, the book closes by pointing to ways in which embedded faith may rise out of these pages to meet the reader where he or she lives.

prophets have not done well in history at least not by ordinary standards. elijah seemed to be the only one in israel resisting baalism. amos was told to keep silent and go back where he came from. jeremiah was scorned and imprisoned. john the baptist was beheaded and jesus the greatest of them all was crucified. by ordinary standards the prophets have not done well because as jesus said we ignore or kill the messengers of god and yet it is the extraordinary standards of the prophets that intrigue us, inspire us, and stimulate our minds and consciences to god's ways and thoughts. because of their extraordinary standards the prophets continue to shape us and history. in this challenging advent christmas book maurice a. fetty reminds us again how it is important to profit from prophets. maurice a. fetty is senior minister of the congregational church of manhasset united church of christ in manhasset new york. he has also served churches in grand rapids michigan, minneapolis, east harlem, and brooklyn. fetty holds the master of sacred theology degree from union theological seminary and the master of arts degree from christian theological seminary. in addition to numerous articles he has authored several books including putting your life on the line, sex, love, and marriage, and the divine advocacy.

in toward a dialogue of understandings mary ellen pitts examines scientist Loren Eiseley's unique impact as a thinker and writer.

*a naturalist explores the mystical symbolism of nature as he reflects upon man's evolution and scientific endeavor*

*what are the mysterious numbers that unlock the secrets of the universe in fantastic numbers and where to find them leading theoretical physicist and youtube star antonio padilla takes us on an irreverent cosmic tour of nine of the most extraordinary numbers in physics these include graham's number which is so large that if you thought about it in the wrong way your head would collapse into a singularity tree 3 whose finite value could never be reached before the universe reset itself and 10<sup>120</sup> which measures the desperately unlikely balance of energy the universe needs to exist leading us down the rabbit hole to the inner workings of reality padilla demonstrates how these unusual numbers are the key to unlocking such mind bending phenomena as black holes entropy and the problem of the cosmological constant which shows that our two best ways of understanding the universe contradict one another combining cutting edge science with an entertaining cosmic quest fantastic numbers and where to find them is an electrifying head twisting guide to the most fundamental truths of the universe*

*essays on distinctly american nature writers from the earliest to the most recent that have consistently sought to convey both their wonder at the natural world and their individual personal experiences within it*

*it is certainly true that the more optimistic gospel of the methodists and others permeated the regions of the south and many of us have tried to get the hang of perfectionism we believe in god we try to believe in goodness in perfectability but underneath is the fear that we are going it alone in the world and getting euchred flawed unreliable and absurd pretending that we are worthy and in control yet we know that our dignity is a too small hat in the winds of truth all people know this but here in this region we keep it uppermost in minds so that the only reasonable thing to do about it is to laugh at ourselves and at others who pretend against odds that all is well with the human enterprise*

*once many believed that science would provide a description of the universe that would make religion obsolete this book reveals the ironic situation where god is being revealed through science at an ever increasing pace this is a book about signals of transcendence the authors write about points to the infinite that are coming to us not from mystics but instead through the most recent findings of science*

*entries include critical commentary brief biographical information a portrait when available a list of principal works and may also include a further reading section*

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