

GREEN SPACE, GREEN TIME

The Way of Science

Connie Barlow

Religion and science are two different methods by which we can come to understand ourselves, the universe, and how we all fit into the scheme of things. Barlow and many of her colleagues in the physical and life sciences believe that to solve the complex ecological problems our planet faces today, we must reinvigorate our idea of the history of life on earth with the myth, metaphor, and meaning of religious experience. This is what biologist Edward O. Wilson has called the "evolutionary epic"—a grand narrative of biodiversity that not only tells us of the life and death of species in primordial seas but instills in us a sense of our place in this cosmic saga. Barlow wisely refrains from setting out these concepts in either a stuffy essay or a touchy-feely Gaia fest. Instead, she skillfully re-creates her conversations with the scientists in the forefront of this movement. This is cutting-edge science on the broadest scale.

—Booklist

Acclaim for *Green Space, Green Time*

"Connie Barlow is a pioneer, a sure-footed and spirited guide who is equally at home in the two terrains of scientific theory and eco-religious experience. *Green Space, Green Time*, a much-needed tour de force, once and for all breaks through the illusion that science and the spirit are exclusive and separate domains."

Kurt Lauren de Boer
Editor, *Earthlight Magazine*

"A well-informed and passionate intellect, Connie Barlow is the ideal person to guide us through a thicket of ideas that bring force to the greening of society through science—a movement that is well described and immeasurably enriched by this important book."

Loyal D. Rue
Author of *Anythia* and *By the Grace of Guile*

"Essential to preventing the untimely demise of the Cenozoic Era are a reconciliation of science and religion, a greening of science and religion, and a graceful telling of the evolutionary epic. Leading the pack in taking on these tasks is Connie Barlow, whose brilliant book *Green Space, Green Time* could well mark a turning point in humanity's troubled relationship with nature."

John Davis
Editor, *Wild Earth Magazine*

"Connie Barlow slashes through the shopping-mall contrivances of trashy consumerism to regain communication with the living, breathing wilderness of our planet. Celebrating a corrigible evolutionary epic she argues, mainly through lively conversation with scientists and scholars, for a new, value-laden, science-based religion wider than the sky."

Lynn Margulis
University of Massachusetts, Amherst