

My 59th Lap

Writings during the Earth's recent trip around the Sun.



F. Nelson Stover

With species-specific assistance from Perdu

December 2004

Compiled
in the Holiday Season
2004

As I complete my 59th trip around the Sun.

With special thanks to
Elaine and Perdu
who have the patience to let me write
and the wisdom to help clarify my thinking.

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2004

Cover Photo -- "Perdu Ready to Go" -- June, 2004

Introduction

This collection of writings includes poems, articles and drawings compiled during 2004. The opening article, "We live in the Ecozoic Era, Now" was published in the quarterly journal of the Center for Ecozoic Studies. The article sets the context for all of the other pieces by clarifying the context in which the current social change is happening.

The three poems – "Holding On", "TIC and TOC" and "Pendulum Swings" -- are the first three poems of a projected series of 20 20-line poems on the history of the Universe. Each of the poems focuses on a particular turning point in the Universe's journey into the present.

The next two pieces were written while on our family vacation in the Shenandoah National Park. The last four pages on the Sri Yantra summarize a year's work with Sacred Geometry and its relationship to life in the 21st Century.

In compiling these writings into a single volume it is my hope that the reader will find some insights that will help them on their own journey into tomorrow.

F. Nelson Stover
Greensboro, NC
December 2004

We're Entering the Ecozoic Era

Given the transformations manifested on planet within recent years, I believe Earth is entering a new era, a new mode of existence. Thomas Berry, among others, calls this emerging era the Ecozoic Era – a time when all species live in a mutually enhancing relationship with one another. Three factors are precipitating the transition from the Cenozoic to the Ecozoic Era. The transition to the Ecozoic Era is being fostered by: the global psycho-spiritual presence of the human species, the declining rate of production of fossil fuels, and the finite capacity of the planet's potable water supply.

The human species now plays a critical role in self-consciously shaping the future of the planet. Never before in Earth's history has a single species had the physical capacity and the psychic presence to play such an active role in determining the unfolding directions of the future. The scale of human presence has increased six-fold since the beginning of the 20th century. Of all the humans who have ever lived, more are alive today than have died – put another way, of all the human creatures who have ever lived on Earth, more than half are alive now. With the capacities of modern technology including telecommunications, mass production, large-scale construction, physical and bio-medical research and space exploration, the human species has amassed creative and destructive potentials unmatched by any single species in the history of the planet. In terms of psychic presence, the human species has obtained reflective capacities fostering cooperation and promoting discord on a global level as well as allowing understanding of patterns at the micro-cosmic and macro-cosmic levels.

Creative new relationships to stored energy, such as oil and coal, and renewable energy drive the Ecozoic Era. Social dependence on fossil fuels is typified by an account from the early days of the oil age. During early June of 1887, 70,000 people poured into Findlay, Ohio to participate in an historic 3-day celebration.¹ Fifty-eight arches spanned Main Street, each adorned by hundreds of gas jets, each flanked by varicolored globes. Every principal street was piped with open jets which could turn the night into day. The entire spectacle was to celebrate the bonanza of the natural gas that had been tapped near the agricultural town of 4,633 people. In a speech at the height of the celebration, Professor Isaac Newton Vail, an undisputed authority of his time, proclaimed that the gas belched from the molten center of Earth, where it was continuously being manufactured by nature. Indeed he claimed that the more it was used, the more would be generated by nature. For another century, human civilization continued to tap the stored up energies of the planet's fossil fuels as though their availability was unending.

While technology and research on a global scale continued to release ever increasing amounts of liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons during the early years of the 20th century, the United States reached the limits of its annual productive capacities by the late 1970s.² Because of the way that the oil reserves are stored in the ground under the pressure of gas or water, simply drilling additional wells does not necessarily insure a proportional increases in production even in plentiful oil fields. By the early part of the 21st century, the global daily production rates have achieved or are approaching their natural limits.³ In contradiction to the bold

¹ Hartzell Spence, *Portrait in Oil*, McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1962, p. 31ff.

² World Resources Institute, "Oil as a finite resource: When is global production likely to peak?", www.wri.org/wri/climate/jm_oil_000.html, March 2000.

³ See http://www.ems.org/oil_depletion/story.html — Environmental Media Services, Jan. 6, 2003.

assertion of Professor Vail in Findlay, Earth is not, in any substantial way, producing additional fossil fuel reserves for use in the foreseeable future. Thus, economic growth patterns based on stored energy will no longer be possible for future generations.

The realization of the need to preserve and enhance natural water supplies and their regenerative processes offers a doorway into large-scale cooperation and understanding across political boundaries and economic classes. One of the unique features of Earth, that which provides the unique Blue Marble appearance when seen rising over its moon's horizon, comes from the presence of liquid water on the surface of the planet, the water vapor in the air and the pools of aquifers within the rocky underground. Throughout the history of the human species, civilizations have flourished along the banks of the flowing fresh-water rivers and lakes. When the size of the human species was relatively small, adequate potable water was usually available to settled populations; or bands of humans were able to migrate from place to place as the availability of water changed. The problem now is that, while the size of the human species has increased greatly, the quantity of fresh water on the planet did not change. In fact, for all intents and purposes, the quantity of fresh water now on Earth is the same as it was a thousand years ago, when human population was about 350 million. The production of substantial additional quantities of fresh water seems unlikely by either natural or artificial forces.

Marq de Villiers, in his book "Water", reviews the global situation of nations and communities relative to their water resources. Like other authors and agency reports, he clearly documents how in country after country, entire river basins are becoming unusable to living creatures and how community after community has to rely on ever more costly means of water purification to meet even their basic needs. Indeed, he asserts, most if not all of the global unrest, especially in the Middle East, has more to do with the desire of citizens to have access to adequate and affordable water supplies, than to ideological differences or economic disparities.¹

Throughout Earth's history, when energy levels and resource availability have reached insurmountable limits, modes of existence have changed and entire new eras have emerged. When the nutrient-rich seas became filled with living forms that depleted the stores of life-giving hydrocarbons, some creatures found ways to harness sunlight directly through photosynthesis and the eras of the plants began.² When the dinosaur population could no longer be sustained by decreasing fern resources, the mammals and the flowering plants established a mutual interaction that marked the beginning of the Cenozoic Era.

We are at a similar turning point. While the past holds invaluable lessons – both in terms of cultural patterns and practical skills – the conditions and understandings that allowed previous civilizations to flourish will never again suffice for coming generations. Now in the emerging Ecozoic Era, the human species, in interaction with the rest of the planet's systems, is inventing new ways of long-term growth and sustainable development. On a global scale, the creative elements of diverse societies are laying the foundations for the Ecozoic Era through their experimentations with practical lifestyle choices as well as their symbolic interpretations and artistic expressions.

¹ Marq de Villiers, *Water*, Stoddart Publishing Company, 1999, p. 215 ff.

² Brian Swimme and Thomas Berry, *The Universe Story – From the Primordial Flaring Forth to the Ecozoic Era*, HarperSanFrancisco, 1992, p. 88.

Holding On

{A story of collegiality surviving transformation.}

Stellar observers of the Milky Way's wispy spirals
Couldn't have suspected Tiamat's deep seated unrest
As the Universe's 9th billion-year birthday rolled around.

Yet each hydrogen atom within Tiamat's fiery core
Felt the unbearable pressure and the unfathomable heat
From the incessant churning of her atomic consumption.

A and B, two visionary hydrogen atoms with heightened sensitivities,
Had encountered each other in Tiamat's roiling interior
And periodically had experienced the thrill of atomic interaction.

Tiamat tried as hard as she could to maintain her flaming equilibrium.
She used everything fissionable to feed her blazing fires,
Thus trying to support her increasing mass.

Eventually, the time came when even her best efforts remained inadequate.
Wild pandemonium reigned as the massive core fell in upon itself
Obliterating most existing patterns and relationships in a cosmological twinkling.

Temperatures soared beyond bearable limits.
Atomic nuclei fused into massive associations
Forming copper, gold, uranium, zinc and other essential metals and gasses.

The energy waves from the tumultuous collapse
Reverberated throughout the fireball's sphere
Jostling, energizing and invigorating even the atoms in the outer reaches.

A and B had survived the blackness of the pre-galactic void
And had felt the buoyant exhilaration of riding solar flares;
But nothing had prepared them for this supernova frenzy.

The chaotic turmoil intensified their sub-atomic energies
And enhanced their inter-particulate propensities,
Opening new possibilities in the presence of dissimilar atoms.

Adrift in the swirl of confusion, A and B found an enthusiastic oxygen atom
And the three became one water molecule when they formed a timeless bond
As Tiamat's fires died out leaving a vagabond cloud around a cooling core.

Driven hither and yon by countless conflicting forces
The solitary water molecule manifested universal destiny
And its presence would eventually shape snails and apples.

Riding the energy waves from Tiamat's explosion
The water molecule ventured into frigid interstellar space
Where it found similar molecules formed in numerous novae and nebulae.

The little water molecules danced around each other
Forming a tiny ice ball with increasing gravitational attractiveness
Until a sizeable dirty ball floated through space.

Every portion of the swirling disk of debris
Left in the trail of Tiamat's demise
Resulted in bigger and bigger coalesced clumps of ice and minerals.

A fledgling source of heat flared in the rotating disk's center.
93 million miles away, hordes of ice balls joined dust and gas
To become the 3rd orb revolving around the nascent star.

Forces in the spinning globe jostled the clumpy masses
And the warming sun changed the ice balls into flowing water
Until A and B and their water molecule friend colored the marble blue.

Memories of the fiery furnace that forged the H₂O bonding
Faded with each lapping of the gentle waves on the sandy shores
Where complex hydrocarbons thrived in the buoyant medium.

Warm breezes lifted water molecules high into billowing clouds.
Resulting electrical differentials bred wild lightening strikes
Providing heat and energy for invigorating complex life forms.

Plants and animals thrived on nutritious nuts and fancy fruits
Each of which utilized the vitalizing powers of water
For transporting nutrients throughout their structures.

A and B were still holding on to each other and to their oxygen colleague
In the April rain clouds floating above the Atlanta skyline.
They sent their greetings to the poet in the passing plane
who now passes their blessings on to you.

F. Nelson Stover
Airborne over Atlanta
April 2004

TIC and TOC

(A Story of Change in Times of Transition)

Dinosaurs of all sizes and shapes gathered
On the fern-filled plain
Midway between the two rolling oceans.

They had walked or flown from their diverse homelands
Honored to be able to attend
The International Council (TIC).

Everyone was hungrier than usual
And they all knew they had to share
The dwindling supply of their favorite ferns.

In the flowery forest surrounding the ferny plain
The small squirrels quietly convened
The Other Convention (TOC).

Knowing they were no match for the monstrous dinosaurs,
The squirrels and mammals tried to avoid confrontation
As they scampered up tree trunks and looked under leaves.

The mood at TIC was sour and glum
As the wise dinosaur elders pondered
The widespread decline of the life-giving fern.

Some had considered trying the colorful flowers
But the general agreement remained
"It's not food, if it's not green." Or "If it's brown put it down."

The squirrels who had organized TIC
Had long ago learned how to crack the nutritious nuts
That appeared each year after the flowers had wilted.

The cleverest squirrels led special classes at TIC,
Devoted to improved methods of burying nuts
Giving special attention to finding them in the spring.

The teachers went on to assure their pupils
That if they didn't find them all next year
At least they would help the seed-producing plants increase in numbers.

Many years earlier at previous gatherings of TOC,
The flying pterodactyl had proposed eating seeds
And shown their dinosaur colleagues some good ones to try.

At first, the pterodactyl were mocked for the stupidity of their idea,
The next time they suggested eating seeds they were scorned and reprimanded
And at the current TOC, all seed and fruit eating was explicitly banned.

So a few pterodactyls made a peace treaty with the mammals.
They filed off their claws on sandstone outcrops
And joined the squirrels at a nutty feast.

The crowd partied all night under a smiling full moon
And by the end of the cross-species celebration
Some compassionate pterodactyl offered rides to emboldened squirrels.

As the TOC drew to a close, forward-looking friends
Began to envision larger gatherings in the years ahead
And some pterodactyl organized aerial services for crossing lakes and rivers.

But the fern-eating dinosaurs at TIC
Could find no one with the energy to organize another event.
Tears flowed as they said their final goodbyes.

And so it was that as the flowers and trees overshadowed the fragile fern,
Planet Earth experienced the changing of an era.
The mighty Mesozoic Era gave way to the colorful Cenozoic Era.

Most plants and animals would disappear forever during the changing of the eras.
The squirrels and their mammal friends would eventually thrive
And the flying pterodactyl would proliferate into myriads of multicolored birds.

During the next 65 million years on Planet Earth
The birds and the squirrels would watch the Himalaya Mountains form
And witness the spread of the human species across the Planet.

This story was told to me by Squirrel and Cardinal
Whose mothers assured them it was entirely true;
And now I've passed the story on to you.

F. Nelson Stover
December 2003

Pendulum Swings

{Recounting the 5 great endeavors of the human species.}

In the land between forest and savannah, the Pendulum of Decision swung.
Whether to keep walking on four paws or to start walking on two legs,
Became a challenge confronting individuals and species across Africa.

A vertical body stayed cooler, having no heated backside facing the blistering sun,
And nimble hands could carry food home to growing families
Once tricky balancing skills were mastered across the rolling landscape.

Upright backs allowed female's pelvic opening to gradually expand
Permitting delivery of off-spring with larger brain capacities
While everyone's vocal chords loosened to enhance tonal variations.

After 3 million years of experimentation and effort by unnamable ancestors
The lands of the ocean-bound continent in the tropical sun
Became filled with humans committed to upright travel in community.

At the edge of the northeastern land bridge, the Pendulum of Decision again swung.
To stay in familiar forests or to venture into unknown landscapes
Prompted deliberations among the complacent and the concerned alike.

Daring ventures and periodic painful tragedies
Allowed the capture, care and control of fire for cooking meat
And providing dependable heat on cold winter nights.

New found animal friends like horse, dog and cow
Had social patterns compatible with the 2-legged species
Permitting easier travel, additional energy and a protein-enhanced food supply.

After nearly a million years of exploration and discovery
All of the life-sustaining niches of Planet Earth
Had been visited by the roving vanguard of the human species.

Population density increased in each bioregion, the Pendulum of Decision again swung.
Choosing between learning the cycles of their present place or keeping exploring
Challenged clans and tribes across the Blue Marble.

Settled sages marked the solar cycles and named the stellar bodies.
Stories of seasonal patterns enchanted children
And reminded citizens when plants and animals would become available.

Using their particular languages, symbolic representations and cultural patterns
Tribes developed sophisticated social systems and appropriate technologies
Allowing reflection on their situations and an understanding of their environs.

For more than 30 thousand years, the Indigenous Ones enlivened their locales.
Their spirits pulsed to the rhythms of the surrounding flora and fauna
And they knew themselves ingrained in the four elements and directions.

For the fourth time, the Pendulum of Decision once again began to swing.
Along the rivers of the temperate climates in Mesopotamia and China
Individuals and societies debated the merits of tending crops rather than foraging.

Secure and sufficient food supplies allowed social stratification and political protection.
Manufacturing classes produced tools, arts and comforts
As societies tapped into energies stored in wood, sun and fossil fuels.

New explanations emerged to help citizens comprehend the world in which they lived.
The gods cared for priests who cared for people who cared for plants
As social hierarchy and historical progress became foundations of wisdom.

Fueled by carbohydrates and proteins from farms, pastures and plantations,
The Human Species seemed to manage the progress of the planet
While growing in numbers and consumptive capacity for 10 thousand years.

Now again, across the Planet, in villages and cities, the Pendulum of Decision swings.
Each one choosing whether to continue rampant extraction of non-renewable resources
Or to invent lifestyles promoting the mutual enhancement of all species.

Those electing to participate in creating the Ecozoic Era draw on past wisdom
Yet learn the Universe's ways of communion, differentiation and autopoiesis
And build sustainable systems of social and environmental interaction.

Scientists utilize schema of incommensurate numbers to refine quantum calculations,
Sociologists understand that each individual actively participates in creating tomorrow
And sages find the Holy in every moment and action.

The unborn creatures and unmanifested potentialities of countless future eons
Await their turn on the time-space stage of reality
And the celestial clock ticks as the interminable future
Passes through the embodied present
To join the by-gone actors in the annals of history.

August 24, 2004

**I've Watched
a Billion Years Pass**
{The Memoirs of an Appalachian Mountain Rock.}

Tumultuous times pervaded a fracturing surface, releasing lava from Earth's molten core.
Sun's searing heat seemed cool to us as we congealed atop our ancestors
Hardening them as we, too, took on solid form.
Five miles above the Pre-Cambrian oceans I touched clouds,
Diverted windstorms and forced moisture to return home to the sea.
After the Grenville Orogeny, I watched 400 million years pass while
Seeing our majestic ranges weathering away into an unnamed sea.

During this time, a blazing summer sun scorched sharp mountain ridges.
Soon driving rainstorms and fierce lightening storms
Would return to pummel our barren hillsides.
Winter winds and frigid frozen ice came when the sun headed south
And these, too, abetted the fracturing of our rocky landscape.
No living creatures had invaded any lands rising above the Blue Marble's waters,
Not even the Grenville Mountains where I had originally resided.

A hundred million times the summer sun returned to its zenith.
I watched the sea turn ever more green
As life forms proliferated among the rolling waves.
Feeding on the nutrients washed down from surrounding hills
They grew larger, more complex and more wise and adventuresome.
We could see greenness coming our way, as creatures crept ashore
Overcoming the crush of gravity with cells both strong and yet flexible.

Another hundred million spring times nourished ferns and mosses.
I watched the eastern horizon change ever so slowly
As another land mass crept across Earth's molten mantle.
The stresses of geologic creativity opened gaping holes
Through which tons of molten lava flowed covering my mountain home.
The colliding land masses wrenched the weathered hillsides
And formed the Appalachian Mountains along a new ocean's coast.

Two hundred million winters passed on the still rising Appalachian peaks
Below which I had been buried in the tectonic transformation.
Thriving ferns grew to astonishing heights
Turning sunlight into sugar and oxygen in their willowy leaves.
Oxygen breathing reptiles, too, flourished on land and sea
Eating plants, and each other, to nourish their ever-larger forms.
Eventually dinosaur footsteps reverberated across the land
Who's grassy ground cover slowed the erosion of my mountain home.

Something new came down beside me after another hundred million autumns.
Though deep below the surface, I was joined by a nutrient-seeking tree root.
Capitalizing on complex nutrients built by countless ferns and reptiles.
The tree could produce seeds and multi-hued flowers.
Adventuresome mammals learned to eat the nuts and berries
And the Cenozoic Era blossomed across the Planet Earth.
While the pace of geologic change slowed and the fiercest storms had subsided
But consciousness grew ever more rapidly as carefully choosy creatures proliferated.

Layers of rock above me slowly fell away until I once again
Could watch out over the green valleys and roaring springtime streams.
The long narrow valleys below provided the human settlers with fertile lands
For hunting deer, growing crops and raising families.
The rapidly flowing waters provided energy for turning mills
To grind flour and drive gears for looms and lathes.
Periodically, armies marched through en route to distant objectives
And perched their scouts and sentinels near my lofty perch.

I'd watched and waited to see new levels of vitality and cooperation
Would emerge among the increasing diversity of Earth's life forms.
In times of economic hardship, scores of teams crossed our ridges
To build a scenic parkway for visitors from near and far.
One special sunny summer day brought a wandering Carolinian
Listening for narratives of geologic and sociological history.
So I shared my story with this passing poet who wrote it down
To encourage you, too, to participate in the Planet's on-going creative process.

July 22, 2004

One, Pi, Phi, Me

On a bright, sunny morning while joining my dog on a walk, we passed a preschool playground full of children marching around singing an old familiar tune. Their sprightly voices and the melody of *Frere Jaque* captivated my attention and enlivened my step. Humming along with them as I approached their domain, I began to notice that they had put new words to the wake up song from my childhood. I stood and listened long enough to learn the simple verses they were proudly proclaiming. I finally realized they were singing:

One, two, three, four;
One, two, three, four.
Four by four;
Four by four.

We can order chaos;
We can order chaos.
Four by four;
Four by four¹.

On first reflection, these two little verses seemed innocuous enough. In fact, they appeared to be a rather good way to teach the children the basics of counting everything and the fundamental presupposition needed for eventually taking positions of leadership in their community. Scientifically, all the numbers necessary for balancing federal budgets and calculating lunar trajectories can be derived as extrapolations of the number line based on one, two, three and four and their fractional parts. Sociologically, after a person decides that they can order chaos, taking charge of small groups, large societies and complex social undertakings becomes an exciting adventure that often yields significant results. So, in many ways the children and their teachers were rightfully proud of the fact that with just a simple song they had mastered the scientific and sociological secrets of the 20th Century at an early age.

As my dog and I continued our walk, we were both exceptionally aware of the beauty that surrounded us in the yards and hedgerows we passed. Ripe round apples hung from the leafy trees and five-petaled Rose-of-Sharon were beginning to open again as the morning sun rose over the pine tops. The longer I thought about the children's ditty, the more I grew concerned and perturbed about the doubly tragic box they were singing themselves into as they prepared to enter the 21st Century. Their confidence in the basic numbers – 1, 2, 3... – as possessing the ability to demarcate reality would wane in the face of trying to truly understand the natural world. Furthermore, their attempts to order chaos would be frustrated as they attempted to relate to the natural world in ways that were mutually enhancing to all species and elements rather than just treating the natural world as a resources base for the voracious human societies.

¹ 5th City Preschool songbook.

The tune was catchy enough, but the children needed new insights to participate effectively in shaping the 21st Century, a time Thomas Berry and others have called the Ecozoic Era¹. I had recently been given a manuscript by Dr. Robert L. Powell, Sr., et. al. entitled "The Rest of Euclid"² in which the three geometers describe a richer and more elegant numbering system that models the processes of the natural world. They show that *Pi* – the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its radius – and *Phi* – the ratio of the side of a pentagon to its diagonal – when combined with *One* and the other integers and their fractional parts provide the tools necessary for modeling the self-creating universe described by thinkers in the Ecozoic Era. The natural world knows how to create these numbers whenever it creates round fruit or uses water to create hands with five fingers and fruit with five equally spaced seeds or Rose of Sharon flowers with five evenly spaced petals. Thus my dog and I, in the spirit of inter-species cooperation, proposed the following modifications to the words of the children's marching song:

One, pi, phi, me;
One, pi, phi, me.
Phi and me,
One and pi.

We help shape tomorrow;
We help shape tomorrow.
One and pi,
Phi and me.

This more complex and sophisticated understanding, with simple words and a catchy tune, is designed to help children and their teachers to maintain mutually enhancing relationships with other species in the wildly creative universe in which they live. The recognition that numbers describe relationships on a plane (not a line) provides even the novice scientist with a framework for describing circles, their interlocking patterns and all of the shapes that can cover a notebook page or infinite plane. When they grow older and wiser and become more sophisticated scientists, they will be able to use these same concepts to unravel the mysteries of quantum physics and molecular biology. In the sociological dimension, the singers will be able to get beyond trying to force their surroundings and beliefs into some preconceived pattern or lifeless static structures dominated by the 'we' of which they are a part. Rather than trying to order chaos, they will remember that they, themselves, and each of the other elements and species of the Universe in which they live are actively participating in the process of shaping the tomorrow that has not yet arrived. Thus, rather than trying to tell, dictate, control and order, the singers will remember to listen, engage, cooperate and enliven all of the diverse actors of differing capacities and persuasions to join in the exciting task of moving from the no longer, through the ambiguities of the present, to the not yet.

F. Nelson & Perdu Stover
July 21, 2004

¹ *Our Great Work*, Thomas Berry.

² *The Rest of Euclid*, Robert L. Powell, Sr., Robert L. Powell, Jr. and Vandorn Hinnat III, 2004

Sri Yantra

Revised for the Ecozoic Era

The preceding drawings, and the accompanying chart, combine the wisdom of the Sri Yantra, an ancient symbol of the creation of the Universe, with modern understandings of the Universe story and how humans can live in a mutually enhancing relationship with all other beings. The original structure of the Sri Yantra is thousands of years old. Like all Yantra, this version is meant to serve as a guide to meditation and as a way to recall the shape of the reality in which we live.

This entire drawing was done using only a compass and a straight edge following the principles of Sacred Geometry. In total, this version of the Sri Yantra has 100 sections and is composed of dots, circles, lines, triangles, squares and pentagons. The numbering scheme is included on the interior pages and the theme for each section is shown in the table entitled "Sri Yantra Categories for the Ecozoic Era". Each section has a two-word title.

The 100 categories are divided into eleven groups corresponding to their position within the Yantra. The two points that were used to begin the drawing represent **All** that is, the yin and the yang, the is and the isn't, all that is before something unfolds, the Universe at the beginning.

The outer points of the nine triangles correlate to the **Fundamental Processes** of any and all parts of the Universe. These include the Exterior Manifestations, the Social Processes and the Interior Disciplines – what have been called the "I, We and It" processes of every being. Twelve of the other triangles created by the intersections of the interior triangles have been used to represent the **Reflective Relationships**, the experiences of living in a dynamic Universe. The last four interior triangles represent the **Other World**, the transparent experience of seeing through the surface manifestations to the fundamental wholeness of reality.

The two outer circles each contain 16 sections. The inner circle summarizes the **Earth Charter**, a 16-paragraph statement outlining a globally responsible framework for individual and organizational actions. The outer circle tells the **Universe Story** by naming each of the 14 billion-year periods – plus the Primal Flaring Forth and the Ecozoic Era into which we are now entering.

The points of the brown square represent the ancient wisdom of the powers of the **Cardinal Directions**. The green stars represent the **Foundational Principles** under girding the Ecozoic Era and the **Habitable Realms** in which these are lived out. The red stars tell the story of the **Great Works** of the human species during its 4 million-year journey; and the great traditions of **Ancestral Wisdom** that sustained the human species during the past 10,000 years and on which the coming generations can draw.

Sri Yantra With Stars

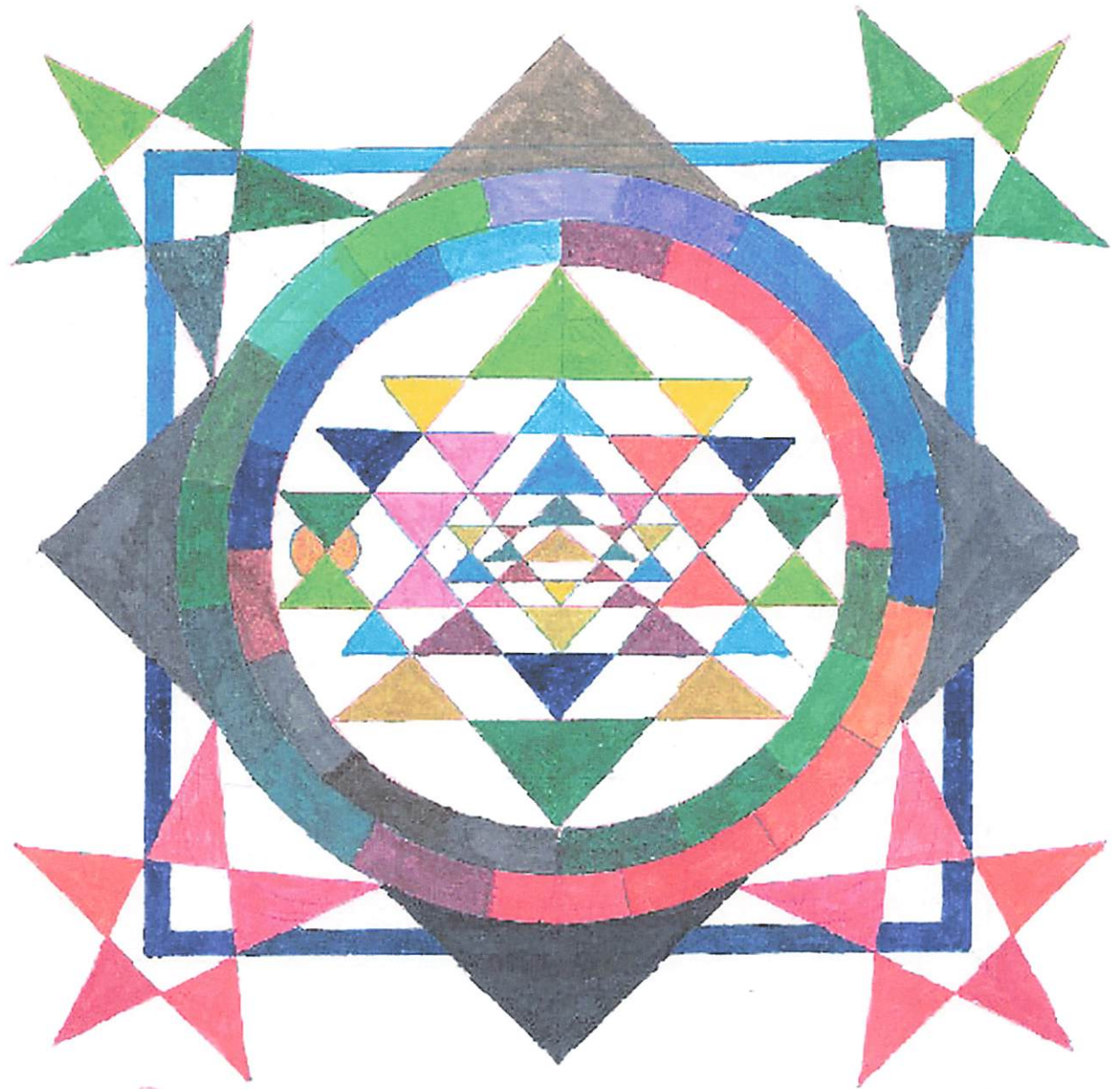


Figure 18.7
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F. NELSON SIVER

SRI YANTRA WITH STARS

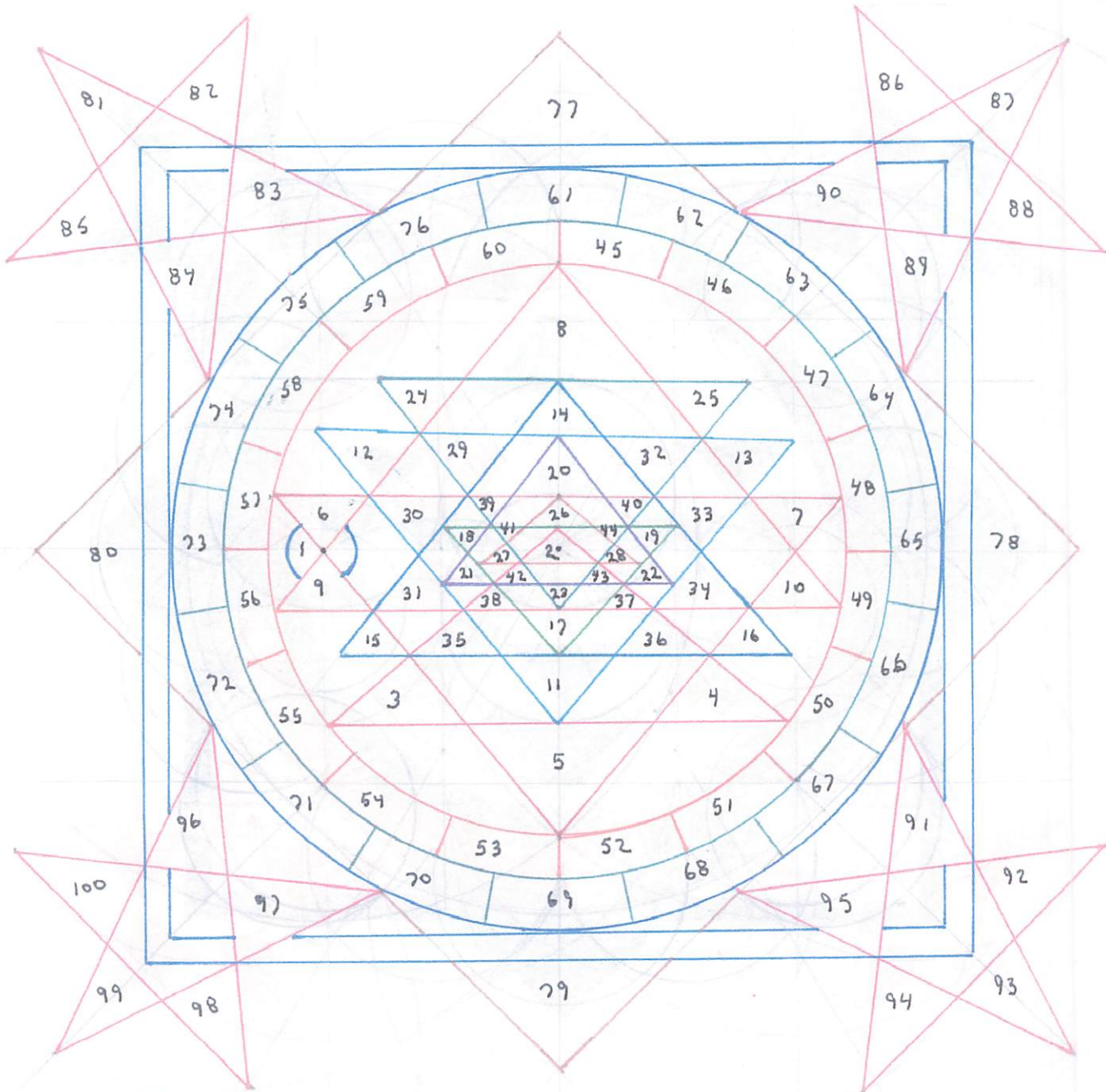


FIGURE 18.7. n2
4/15/04

F. NELSON STOVER

Sri Yantra Categories

For the Ecozoic Era

F. Nelson Stover – May 24, 2004

All	1	Un-manifested Potentiality	Charter	51	Safeguard Regeneration	
	2	Manifested Being		52	Promote Sustainability	
Fundamental Processes	3	Timeless Knowing		Universe Story	53	Eradicate Poverty
	4	Transparent Doing			54	Insure Equitability
	5	Intentional Form			55	Affirm Equality
	6	Dynamic Relationships			56	Uphold Rights
	7	Embodied Substance			57	Transparentize Institutions
	8	All-Pervasive Light			58	Integrate Education
	9	Unfathomable Chaos			59	Respect Beings
	10	Unbridled Power			60	Implement Peace
	11	Equitable Distribution	Universe Story		61	Flaring Forth
	12	Sustaining Resources			62	Hydrogen Bonding
	13	Transforming Production		63	Galactic Clouds	
	14	Illuminating Symbols		64	Shining Stars	
	15	Transmitted Wisdom		65	Foundational Principles	
	16	Empowering Styles		66	Second Generation	
	17	Holy Union		67	Colliding Galaxies	
	18	Focused Attention		68	Carbon Formation	
19	Passionate Resolve	69		Tiamat Explodes		
20	Collective Welfare	70		Sun Ignites		
21	Accepted Order	Universe Story		71	Life Emerges	
22	Instilled Justice			72	Photosynthesis Developed	
23	Intensified Focus			73	Oxygen Breathing	
24	Relaxed Detachment			74	Sexual Reproduction	
25	Committed Involvement			75	Multi-cellular Creatures	
26	Perpetual Change			76	Ecozoic Era	
27	Historic Memory		Cardinal Directions	77	Northern Ice	
28	Destinal Task			78	Eastern Sunshine	
Reflective Relationships	29			Unquestioning Faith	79	Southern Rains
	30			Eternal Love	80	Western Winds
	31		Everlasting Hope	Foundational Principles	81	Universe-referent Understandings
	32		Unbounded Beauty		82	Self-Creating Cosmos
	33		Amazing Wonder		83	Communing Subjects
	34		Inspiring Awe		84	Experienced Oneness
	35		Persistent Resistance		85	Practiced Participation
	36		Initiating Energy	Habitable Realms	86	Inspiring Breath
37	Futuric Dreaming	87	Transfigured Death			
38	Internal Calm	88	One Space			
39	Universal Connectivity	89	Tri-dimensional Existence			
Other World	40	Wild Creativity	90	Illuminating Dreams		
	41	Mysterious Terrain	Great Works	91	Species Differentiation	
	42	Flowing Consciousness		92	Global Expansion	
	43	Heightened Care		93	Significant Place	
	44	Ebbing Tranquility		94	Harnessing Nature	
45	Respect Earth	95		Interspecies Enhancement		
Earth	46	Care Compassionately	Ancestral Wisdom	96	Abraham's Children	
	47	Build Democracies		97	Hindu Pantheon	
	48	Secure Future		98	Taoist Way	
	49	Restore Diversity		99	Nature Religions	
	50	Protect Environments		100	Mystic Experiences	

Personal Notes

What caught your attention?

Where did you get excited?

What questions do you still have?

What difference does all this make to what you do on a day-to-day basis?

About the Author

F. Nelson Stover – systems analyst, poet, teacher. Nelson received his Bachelor of Science degree from Purdue University and completed his graduate work at Chicago Theological Seminary. Currently working as an application specialist for a North Carolina based company providing computer software to professional associations, Nelson previously worked for 25 years with the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA), a non-profit organization facilitating grassroots participation in social change. He now serves as vice-president of the ICA: International Board of Directors. In 2000, Nelson became a founding member of the Center for Ecozoic Studies (CES) and has been elected Treasurer of the CES Board. A collection of 60 of his poems entitled *The Rocks Sang Om* was illustrated and published in Nepal and sold internationally with the proceeds being used for women's literacy training in the Himalayan foothills. In 2003, he self-published a collection of Sacred Geometry drawings entitled *From a Line to a Plane*. He also designs and leads courses dealing with contemporary social issues and the individual journey to profound consciousness. Mr. Stover has lectured in India, Australia, Belgium and across the US. Now residing in Greensboro, NC, Nelson can be reached at FNStover@igc.org.

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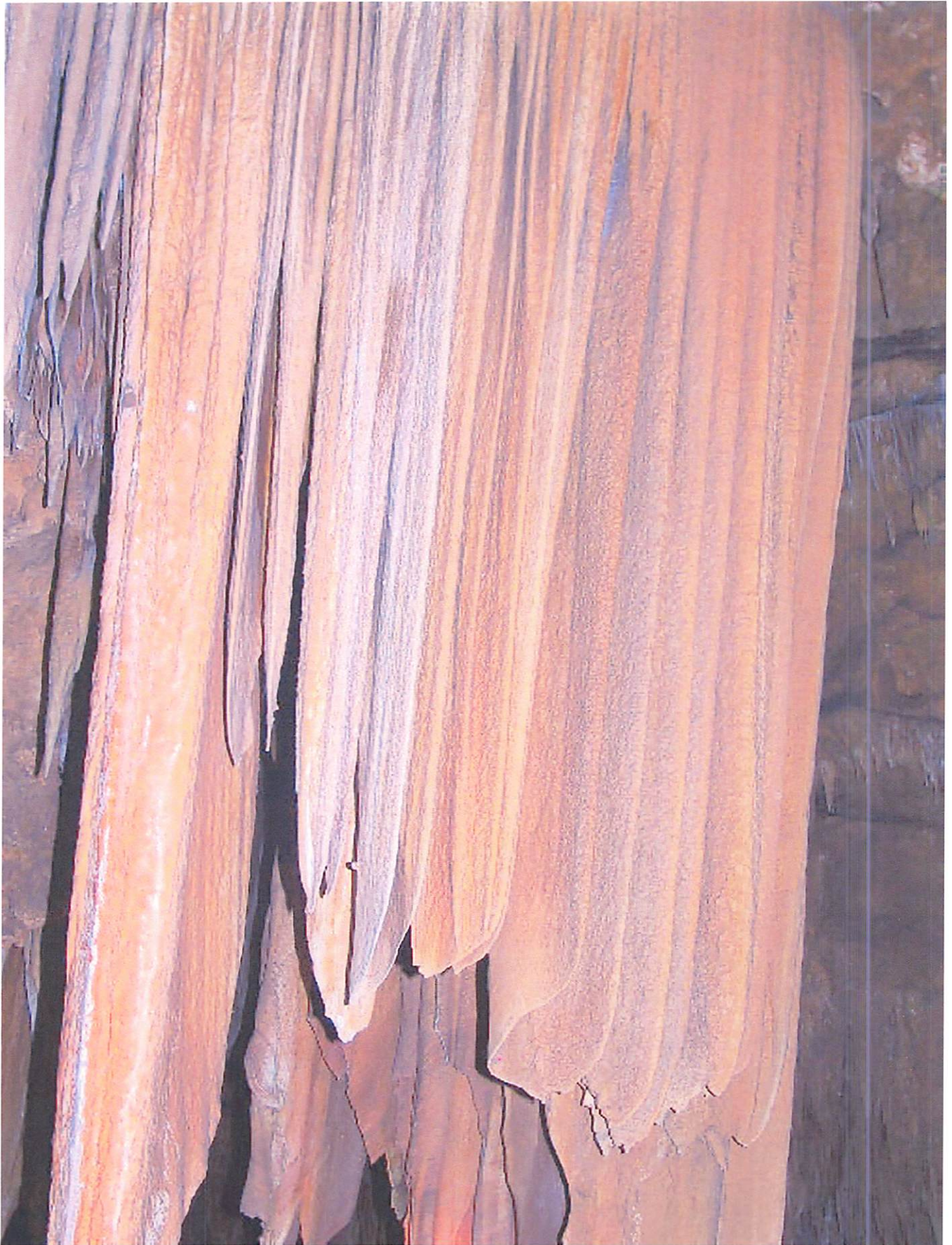
Prayers

Mother started saying prayers to Nelson at 2 years of age. By the time he was old enough to repeat them himself, he was much more interested in who God was, what soul means, etc. So we decided to leave it alone awhile.

After Nelson started to school -- memory became a big thing and he repeated his prayers every nite. He knew his own prayer at about 4 years of age.

Nelson started to Sunday School by himself at 3 1/2 years and was in the Christmas Program in 1949. He sang well with the groups and enjoyed the rehearsals.

From: "Our Baby -- The First Five Years" as annotated by Nina May Stover, 1950



Stalactite Curtains -- Luray Caverns, Virginia -- Photo by FN Stover, 2004