

## NEW STORY NEWS FEBRUARY 2021

**The next meeting of the New Story Group is Monday, February 22, at 7:00pm.**

Newcomers are welcome! Come at 6:30pm for fellowship and informal check-ins.

We will watch the film “The Third Harmony: Nonviolence and the New Story of Human Nature” based on the book by Michael Nagler, peace activist and founder of the Metta Center.

*So many of the problems that beset us—war, poverty, isolation, and the climate crisis—have their roots in an **old story** about the universe: we are purposeless matter in a random void, and scarcity, competition, and violence are inevitable. Citing the convergence of modern science and the essence of the world’s wisdom traditions, Michael Nagler argues for a **new story**: the universe is conscious and purposeful, humans are spiritual beings, and cooperation and collaboration are our natural way of interacting. This “new story” has had other champions, but Nagler is the first to realize that a piece is missing. For the new story to take hold, we have to embrace nonviolence, not only as a social change tactic but as a way of life.*

For this special event, our meeting will be publicized more widely. To participate in the Zoom event, click this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87568811869?pwd=MERCv1pqbkJsc2l4WjRaYjc4RDlLdz09> or call 1-646-558-8656 and provide the Meeting ID 875 6881 1869. Passcode 101225 (if asked).

### Agenda

6:30 pm	Informal fellowship and check-ins
7:00 pm	Poem “The Worst Thing We Ever Did” by Chelan Harkin followed by waiting worship
7:15 pm	Introduction and showing the film “The Third Harmony”
8:00 pm	What are your take-aways from the film?
8:20 pm	Time for quiet reflection (paper and pencil may be useful) on query: “In light of what you know of the New Story, what prevents meaningful action to address the issues raised in this film
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In me</li><li>• In the larger communities in which I’m a part</li></ul>
8:30 pm	Breakout rooms for sharing your responses
8:45 pm	Worship Sharing
9:00 pm	Close “Everything has a Within” watercolor by Mary Coelho

Planning group for the February meeting consisted of Renate Rose, David Damm-Luhr, Gwen Noyes, and Cornelia Parkes, convener.

### Special Opportunity

New Story members can register at a **group rate** for *Applying the New Cosmology in Life and the World* with **Stephan Martin** and the Deep Time Network (DTN). This is a 12-week course starting March 15.

*In the midst of chaos, a planetary nervous system is emerging with the NEW COSMOLOGY as its foundation. People are reflecting together, creating rituals & practices, engaging powerfully in the crises of our day; creating art, films, and music; and much more. With the explicit purpose of*

*fostering emergence, this course will take what is already happening to another level. We will deepen our understanding and meet in allurement groups, further unleashing powerful synergies to bend the arc of our planet's future toward an Ecozoic Era.*

**Dave Damm-Luhr** and **Mary Coelho** are mentors for two of the allurement groups.

Here is how to sign up:

1. Go to the Deep Time Network [home page](#).
2. Click on "Sign-up for free" on the far left at the top of the Home page.
3. Fill in the fields and be sure to click on the activation link in the email you will receive to complete your sign up.
4. Once you have become a (basic) member of the DTN, then go to the Donate page (last pull-down menu on the top bar on the home page) and make a donation of \$250 (which is the group rate for the course)
5. Send an email to Jennifer Morgan at [hello@dtnetwork.org](mailto:hello@dtnetwork.org) saying that you are part of the Cambridge New Story group and have just made a \$250 donation for the New Cosmology course.
6. Scholarships are also available. Just ask.
7. Jennifer will add you to the course list, triggering a Welcome email, etc.

### **New Story Resources**

**Renate Rose** recommends reading/rereading Chapter 12 "But What If...?" in the section on nonviolence in *Engaging the Powers: Discernment and Resistance in a World of Domination* by **Walter Wink**. We worked previously on the Delusional Assumptions from this book.

**Gwen Noyes** recommends reading "[As non-violence is non-negotiable we must have tough conversations](#)" by **Jem Bendell**, February 13, 2021.

*The commitment to nonviolence in climate activism and deep adaptation is a central principle and we must criticize anyone who suggests otherwise. The risks of tolerating any deviation from this principle are too great & therefore we have no choice but to risk painful reactions, even from colleagues, when confronting it.*

**Dave Damm-Luhr's** short list of resources on the New Story from other perspectives:

1. A [website](#) dedicated to Thomas Berry's understanding of the New Story.
2. Brian Swimme and Mary Evelyn Tucker, [An Integrating Story For A Sustainable Future: A Way Toward New Human-Earth Relations](#), Center for Earth and Nature, 2012
3. A free, online course, "[The Journey of the Universe: A Story for Our Times](#)" by Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim of Yale."
4. [Is the Modern Psyche Undergoing a Rite of Passage?](#)" by Richard Tarnas
5. Rupert Sheldrake & Charles Eisenstein: a [wide-ranging conversation](#) about the new story.
6. [Social Conscience and Inner Awakening](#), Martin Schmidt, 2017

**Steve Stodola** is interested in a 9-week course about the quantum world and spirit that started January 25: [Explore the Science Behind the Spiritual Realm & an Eternity of Love, Transcendence & Oneness: Journey From Ancient Alchemy Through Quantum Physics to Experience Consciousness Beyond the Physical Universe](#) with **Eben Alexander**, bestselling author and academic neurosurgeon. "The Universe

looks more like a *mind...* than a machine.” *Can’t make it live? No worries! After each class, the video and audio recordings will be available for you to download or stream in high-quality format at your convenience.*

**Also from Steve:** [Spiritual Gifts from the Imaginal Realm](#) with **Cynthia Bourgeault** February 18 through April 1. In this e-course, Cynthia will specifically explore the gifts of the imaginal realm that can help us adopt a larger perspective and make a difference today using the cosmic assistance available to us all. She will be introducing us to the teachings in her latest book, *Eye of the Heart: A Spiritual Journey into the Imaginal Realm*.

**Dave Damm-Luhr** recommends watching the [Introduction to the Noosphere](#) a short video invitation by **Brian Swimme** to join the [Human Energy Project](#).

*Humankind is experiencing a cosmic transition as we continue to interconnect technologically and cross-culturally. Together we are forming the Noosphere, a shared sphere of culture, technology, and thought weaving human beings into a mindful global envelope, even a new form of life as a superorganism. This process has existential and world-historical significance for all of us.*