

# [PDF] Reinventing The Sacred: A New View Of Science, Reason, And Religion

Stuart A. Kauffman - pdf download free book

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#### Books Details:

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Author: Stuart A. Kauffman  
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#### Description:

**From Publishers Weekly** Kauffman, a complexity theorist at the University of Calgary, sets a huge task for himself in this provocative but difficult book: to find common ground between religion and science by redefining God as not a supernatural Creator but as the natural creativity in the universe. That creativity, says Kauffman, defies scientific assumptions that the biosphere's evolution and human activity can be reduced to physics and are fully governed by natural laws. Kauffman (*At*

*Home in the Universe*) espouses emergence, the theory of how complex systems self-organize into entities that are far more than the sum of their parts. To bolster the idea of this ceaselessly creative and unpredictable nature, Kauffman draws examples from the biosphere, neurobiology and economics. His definition of God as the fully natural, awesome, creativity that surrounds us is unlikely to convince those with a more traditional take on religion. Similarly, Kauffman's detailed discussions of quantum mechanics to explain emergence are apt to lose all but the most technically inclined readers. Nonetheless, Kauffman raises important questions about the self-organizing potential of natural systems that deserve serious consideration. (May)

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**Review "Choice"**

"Kauffman, an outstanding thinker who has devoted much reflection to complexity theory, offers some insightful perspectives on the physical world in "Reinventing the Sacred,".. This is an interesting book that will generate much discussion."

"Houston Chronicle"

"Kauffman's book is a rigorous intellectual quest not only to find the sacred in nature but to remove the taint of atheism from science."

"Scientific American"

"[Kauffman's] provocative argument for a different understanding of God is compelling."

"Science"

"["Reinventing the Sacred"] sparkles from every angle as its author gallops through the relevant science, philosophy, economics, history, ethics, poetry and - well, we had better use the word because Kauffman does: religion.... Bringing science and religion together globally in the way that Kauffman wishes is not going to be easy - as other ecumenical movements have repeatedly found - but it is necessary."

"Library Journal"

"[Kauffman] offers a fresh angle in the ongoing debates concerning creationism, intelligent design, and evolution."

"Publishers Weekly"

"Provocative.... Kauffman raises important questions about the self-organizing potential of natural systems that deserve serious consideration."

Brian Goodwin, Co-author of "Signs of Life: How Complexity Pervades Biology"

"This brilliantly-argued book takes science into novel territory with clarity and conviction, and in Kauffman's inimitable style it challenges some scientific taboos. With this book a new biology is emerging, and with it a new culture."

Owen Flanagan, Author of "The Really Hard Problem"

"Stuart Kauffman is the new Spinoza. "Reinventing the Sacred" is a pedagogical tour de force as well

as an uplifting metaphysics for the 21st century."

Gordon D. Kaufman, Mallinckrodt Professor of Divinity, Emeritus, Harvard University  
"This is a brilliant, new, comprehensive, scientific world-picture, and it deserves a wide reading in the educated public."

Philip Clayton, Author of "Mind and Emergence"

"'Reinventing the Sacred' is a tour de force and a brilliant manifesto for a new emergence-based scientific worldview. But science alone will never be enough; humanity must also invent new categories of the sacred that speak to this naturalistic age. Stuart Kauffman courageously challenges fundamentalist pretensions on both sides, seeking to mold a new partnership of science and religious values...an epoch-making book."

Kenneth Arrow, Nobel Laureate in Economics

"Stuart Kauffman has long studied the nature of complexity in biological systems. His new book shows in a startling way the power of these ideas in our understanding of ourselves and how we relate to the world around us. The sense of agency and of values, seemingly banished by the scientific viewpoint, are restored and enriched by a fuller perception of science deriving from biology as well as physics. Any reader's views will be dramatically altered."

Lee Smolin, Author of "The Trouble with Physics"

"Stuart Kauffman has written a wonderful book, as optimistic as it is provocative. He proposes a new scientific world view that not only incorporates reductionism, but goes beyond it to a vision of a self-constructed and continuously creative universe which can be understood and revered, but not always predicted. Knowledge and wisdom are different aspects of our humanity in Kauffman's universe."

"Shift Magazine"

"Well-written and rigorously argued.... For this meaningful contribution to the quest for an era of sustainability, atheists and believers alike should be most grateful." --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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