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A Rough Ride to the Future (Paperback)

By Honorary Visiting Fellow James Lovelock

Overlook Press, United States, 2016. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . Brand New Book. A Rough Ride to the Future introduces two new Lovelock-ian ideas. The first is that three hundred years ago, when Thomas Newcomen invented the steam engine, he was un-knowingly beginning what Lovelock calls accelerated evolu-tion, a process that is bringing about change on our planet roughly a million times faster than Darwinian evolution. The second is that as part of this process, humanity has the capacity to become the intelligent part of Gaia, the self-regulating earth system whose discovery Lovelock first an-nounced nearly fifty years ago. A Rough Ride to the Future is also an intellectual autobiography, in which Lovelock reflects on his life as a lone scientist, and asks--eloquently--whether his career trajec-tory is possible in an age of increased bureaucratization. We are now changing the atmosphere again, and Lovelock argues that there is little that can be done about this. But instead of feeling guilty, we should recognize what is happening, prepare for change, and ensure that we survive as a species so we can contribute to--perhaps even guide--the next evolution of Gaia. The road will be rough, but if we are smart enough,...



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