



The Story of Earth: The First 4.5 Billion Years, from Stardust to Living Planet

By Robert M. Hazen



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Hailed by *The New York Times* for writing “with wonderful clarity about science . . . that effortlessly teaches as it zips along,” nationally bestselling author Robert M. Hazen offers a radical new approach to Earth history in this intertwined tale of the planet’s living and nonliving spheres. With an astrobiologist’s imagination, a historian’s perspective, and a naturalist’s eye, Hazen calls upon twenty-first-century discoveries that have revolutionized geology and enabled scientists to envision Earth’s many iterations in vivid detail—from the mile-high lava tides of its infancy to the early organisms responsible for more than two-thirds of the mineral varieties beneath our feet. Lucid, controversial, and on the cutting edge of its field, *The Story of Earth* is popular science of the highest order.

"A sweeping rip-roaring yarn of immense scope, from the birth of the elements in the stars to meditations on the future habitability of our world." -*Science*

"A fascinating story." -Bill McKibben

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Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

A *Kirkus* Top 25 Nonfiction Book of 2012

“With infectious enthusiasm for his subject, Hazen introduces readers to Earth’s defining moments . . . [and] argues that understanding the interplay between Earth’s geological and biological pasts can help us predict and prepare for the future of life on our planet.”

—Saron Yitbarek, *Discover*

“A fascinating new theory on the Earth’s origins written in a sparkling style with many personal touches. . . . Hazen offers startling evidence that ‘Earth’s living and nonliving spheres’ have co-evolved over the past four billion years.”

—*Kirkus*, starred review

“Concise and colourful . . . Drawing on the latest research and influenced by advances in astrobiology, Hazen takes a radical standpoint . . . to tell the amazing tale of our planet’s intertwined living and non-living spheres.”

—Birger Schmitz, *Nature*

“Lively and vivid . . . Hazen is a master storyteller with a great story to tell . . . a sweeping rip-roaring yarn of immense scope, from the birth of the elements in stars to meditations on the future habitability of our world . . . Anyone new to Earth history will find Hazen’s account a revelation.”

—A. D. Anbar, *Science*

“I’m not competent to assess the accuracy of Robert Hazen’s thesis about geological and biological history, but I am competent to judge it a fascinating story, far more alive than you might guess if all you knew was the subject was old dead (!) rocks.”

—Bill McKibben, author of *Eaarth: Making a Life on a Tough New Planet*

“Hazen takes us on one of the grandest tours of them all—the 4.5 billion year history of our planet. From the atoms of the crust of the Earth come our bodies, the entire living world, and this exciting book. Read Hazen and you will not see Earth and life in the same way again.”

—Neil Shubin, paleontologist and author of *Your Inner Fish*

“Exceptionally readable [and] user-friendly . . . Science junkies and readers interested in the environment will find Hazen’s arguments compelling and his overview of Earth’s tumultuous history captivating.”

—Carl Hays, *Booklist*

“*The Story of Earth* is that rare book that can transform the way you see the world. By synthesizing a vast span of time and knowledge into crisp, delightful prose, Hazen really does make our planet into a story, and a compelling one. I was left with a new sense of context for our place in this galactic home.”

—**Charles Wohlforth**, author of *The Fate of Nature* and *The Whale and the Supercomputer*

“A gripping, well-told story . . . [Hazen’s] vivid descriptions of the early Earth’s tortured landscapes are a joy, as is his Carl Sagan-like gift for conveying the sheer age of our world and the vastness of space. A fantastic, stirring read.”

—Michael Marshall, *New Scientist*

“Cramming billions of years of geological evolution into a single book is a daunting challenge, but it’s one that Hazen, a geophysicist, has risen to splendidly.”

—Sid Perkins, *Science News*

“Hazen illuminates the origins of Earth and the origins of life [in] a thoroughly accessible book, mixing a variety of scientific disciplines to tell an unforgettable story.”

—**Publishers Weekly**

“Hazen has a gift for explaining science in lay terms, and even readers with a minimal understanding of geology, chemistry, and physics will find this book riveting.”

—Nancy R. Curtis, *Library Journal*

About the Author

Robert M. Hazen is the Clarence Robinson Professor of Earth Science at George Mason University and a Senior Scientist at the Carnegie Institution’s Geophysical Laboratory. The author of numerous books—including the bestselling *Science Matters*—Hazen lives with his wife in Glen Echo, Maryland.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Virginia Warriner:

This The Story of Earth: The First 4.5 Billion Years, from Stardust to Living Planet book is not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you have by reading this book is usually information inside this e-book incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. That The Story of Earth: The First 4.5 Billion Years, from Stardust to Living Planet without we recognize teach the one who studying it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't end up being worry The Story of Earth: The First 4.5 Billion Years, from Stardust to Living Planet can bring whenever you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' grow to be full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even telephone. This The Story of Earth: The First 4.5 Billion Years, from Stardust to Living Planet having good arrangement in word and also layout, so you will not feel uninterested in reading.

Colleen Nguyen:

This The Story of Earth: The First 4.5 Billion Years, from Stardust to Living Planet is great reserve for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This book reveal it information accurately using great arrange word or we can say no rambling sentences included. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole information in it. Doesn't mean it only will give you straight forward sentences but tricky core information with wonderful delivering sentences. Having The Story of Earth: The First 4.5 Billion Years, from Stardust to Living Planet in your hand like having the world in your arm, details in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no guide that offer you world inside ten or fifteen minute right but this publication already do that. So , this can be good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. busy do you still doubt that will?

Aaron Blue:

The book untitled The Story of Earth: The First 4.5 Billion Years, from Stardust to Living Planet contain a lot of information on this. The writer explains your girlfriend idea with easy way. The language is very clear and understandable all the people, so do not worry, you can easy to read it. The book was compiled by famous author. The author will bring you in the new period of literary works. It is easy to read this book because you can read on your smart phone, or device, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can open up their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice examine.

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