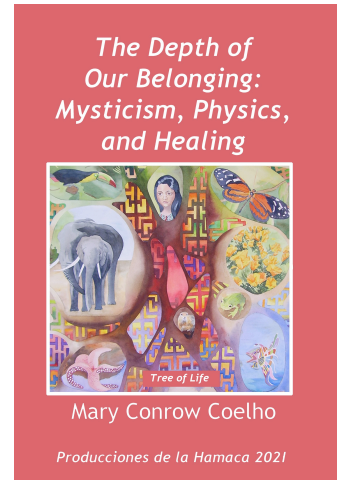


**Discussion on *The Depth of Our Belonging: Mysticism, Physics and Healing* with Quaker Earthcare Witness & Mary Conrow Coelho**



**From Page 34:**

Matter is certainly not what we have thought. We are indeed living in a time of radical change. This discovery of the nature of matter is central to our new understanding of our everyday daily world as it does not allow us to separate our daily manifest physical world from its source. The source is throughout the manifest world as the clusters of vibrations or patterns of energy form within it. The nonvisible seamless plenum and the manifest world cannot be separated into two distinct domains. This intimacy of the non-visible generative realm, the seamless plenum, and our manifest daily world is a transformative discovery as it is coming from physics. Our self-understanding is profoundly changed. We can imagine the seamless plenum permeating the entirety of our very being...



**Connecting These Discoveries to the Big Bang**

It is natural to ask how these discoveries about matter can be integrated with the 13.8 billion years' story of our origins and with ideas about the cosmic flaring forth at the beginning of time. Do the discoveries of the seamless plenum help integrate us into our cosmic origin story? Here is what Brian Swimme and Thomas Berry write about this important question in their book, *The Universe Story*.

"Originating power brought forth a universe. All the energy that would ever exist in the entire course of time, erupted as a single quantum – a singular gift – existence. ... There was no place in the universe that was separate from the originating power of the universe. Each thing of the universe had its very roots in this realm. Even space-time itself was a tossing, churning, foaming out of the originating reality, instant by instant.

Each of the sextillion particles that foamed into existence had its root in this quantum vacuum, the originating reality. ... Though the originating power gave birth to the universe fifteen billion years ago, this realm of power is not simply located there at that point of time, but is rather a condition of every moment of the universe, past, present and to come."

**QUERIES**

- a. *Does the discovery of the seamless plenum by physicists change or deepen your assumptions about your identity and that of the natural world?*
- b. *We are learning that our origins arose within the 13.7 billion year story of our evolving universe. What does it mean to you to know that your body is made of elements that originated in the stars?*

## **Worship Sharing Guidelines**

- ❖ Reach as deeply as you can into the sacred center of your life.
- ❖ Speak out of the silence, and leave a period of silence between speakers.
- ❖ Speak from your own experience, about your own experience. Focus on feelings and changes rather than on thoughts or theories.
- ❖ Do not respond to what anyone else has said, either to praise or to refute.
- ❖ Listen carefully and deeply to what is spoken.
- ❖ Expect to speak only once, until everyone has had a chance to speak.
- ❖ Respect the confidentiality of what is shared.

## **Guidelines for Today**

1. Do the first round of sharing for any of the queries that speak to you – leaving time for each person to speak. If you choose to pass, please make sure to let your group know that you wish to pass.
2. Depending on how much time is used in the first round, you might have time to do a second round.
3. You are all clerks – Begin with some silence, consider starting off the responses yourself if it seems that all are reluctant to start. Introduce yourself and your meeting.
4. We will have 40 minutes in our breakout groups; each will have 5-6 participants.
5. We will come back together as a group to share reflections.