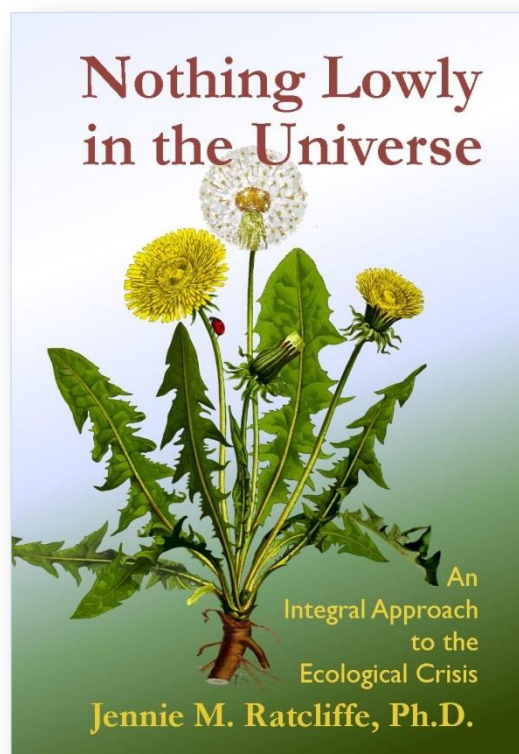


Nothing Lowly in the Universe

An Integral Approach to the Ecological Crisis

Jennie M Ratcliffe, Ph.D.

Jennie M. Ratcliffe is an environmental research scientist, Quaker, and activist. She has worked for the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the US National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and the Universities of London and North Carolina, and has been active in peace, social and ecological concerns for many years in the Quaker community and beyond.



The ecological and climate crisis is, at its heart, a spiritual and moral crisis. **Nothing Lowly in the Universe** explores the connections and interactions between the scientific, technological, economic, cultural, psychological and religious forces that are contributing to the crisis and shows how we can transform the ways of thinking and living that got us here.

Our current technological, economic and policy approaches can, at best, only delay ecological destruction and conflict unless we address the deeper roots of our predicament. Drawing on the Quaker testimonies of integrity, reciprocity, nonviolence, simplicity, and the fundamental equality of all life, on other wisdom traditions, and on the work of visionaries from Gandhi and Arne Naess to E.F. Schumacher and Thomas Berry, Jennie Ratcliffe explores the spiritual principles of an integrated deep ecology, economy and peace. Using multiple examples, she shows how they are being put into practice around the world.

Despite the formidable and urgent challenges we face, these principles and practices, far from being utopian, offer attainable paths to long-term sustainability and a more peaceable and just world for the whole commonwealth of life.

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By Jennie M. Ratcliffe, Ph.D.

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