

Nature: Machine or Hologram?

by Viv Pope

Exploring the revolutionary transition in modern science from a mechanics-based to an information-based physics.

I. Introduction

First, a word of caution. This book is not something to be read in a perfunctory way. It has been remarked that the ideas it presents should be preceded by a 'health warning'. This is because, as it has been described, reading it is like trying to jump a deep divide, a veritable conceptual canyon, not to be attempted unless one resolves to go all the way.

But what does 'going all the way' mean, here? It means leaving all one's customary ideas about science on the one side of the Canyon and being prepared, for the interim, to remain mentally 'airborne' with attention fixed firmly on the other side. Once in the air, there is no going back. It is like the switch from a flat-earth cosmology to a round earth cosmology. The two ways of thinking are distinct and completely incommensurable. Trying to think in both ways at the same time is like trying to fly without leaving the ground, a panicky state of irresolution and complete confusion.

This Introduction, therefore, is to present the reader with a sketch-map of that 'other side' so that he may decide whether to stay put and 'leave well alone' or to launch out into the mist. The only assurance that can be given is that the ground promises to be scientifically firmer on that other, unconventional side than it ever was on our familiarly 'safe' but now logically deteriorating 'this side'. It is the side that, by all its signs and portents, our contemporary science must get to eventually, but only by its long

drawn-out process of navigating steep and precipitous pathways that are inaccessible to all but those meticulous but blindly probing professionals...

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