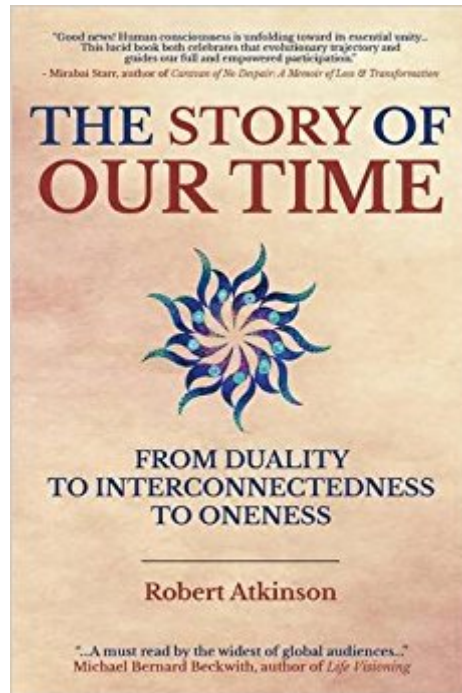




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# The Story Of Our Time



## Synopsis

Beneath the illusion of separation, humanity is one family. In this timely and timeless book, Dr. Robert Atkinson offers a deeply thoughtful narrative of conscious evolution drawn from the continuous wisdom of the world's religions. *The Story of Our Time* inspires hope as it traces love's unifying power throughout history to its presence in our midst. Don't be distracted by seeming setbacks; this big picture view of conscious evolution and human progress points toward the promise of peace on earth. Unity is our ultimate destination. How we get there depends upon the stories we live by and the action we take.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Good news! For all the divisive shadows rising across the landscape of the global community these days, there is an answering and much more potent luminosity. Human consciousness is unfolding toward its essential unity - not only with other humans but also with all Life. This lucid book both celebrates that evolutionary trajectory and guides our full and empowered participation. -Mirabai Starr, author of *Caravan of No Despair: A Memoir of Loss & Transformation*, and *God of Love: A Guide to the Heart of Judaism, Christianity & Islam* What makes this book a classic is its profound stretch across the philosophical, metaphysical, scientific, and spiritual panorama of existence, all wrapped in the universal language of connectivity that unites all sentient beings: Love. It is a must-read by the widest of global audiences. -Michael Bernard Beckwith, author of *Life Visioning* This beautiful book helps us find a whole new category of understanding evolution. It is not a

materialistic process seen only from the outside; it is the interior journey of humanity's consciousness, love and creativity, a remarkable work that I recommend wholeheartedly. -Barbara Marx Hubbard, author of *Conscious Evolution: Awakening the Power of Our Social Potential* As Muhammad said, "To every age its own book." Atkinson's *The Story of Our Time* aptly summarizes today's story of emergent conscious unity across our species. Organizing the scientific, spiritual, and myriad other elements of this story into seven binding principles only further enhances the value of this book. -Kurt Johnson, organizer of The Interspiritual Network, and author of *The Coming Interspiritual Age* With clarity and insight, Atkinson describes this pivotal moment in our collective evolution. Here are the guidelines for the shift in consciousness humanity needs to make if we are to survive and transform, if we are to make the transition from "the love of power to the power of love." Here is real hope grounded in the deep understanding of life's essential unity and our innate capacity for love. -Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee, Sufi teacher and author of *Spiritual Ecology: The Cry of the Earth* In *The Story of Our Time*, Robert Atkinson bravely, audaciously, and compellingly identifies factors that can move the consciousness of humanity toward the unity that underlies the divisions of ordinary perception - and, as he astutely illustrates, there is no greater task before us. This is an important contribution to the evolutionary dialogue that is our best hope of transcending the problems that our constricted awareness has created. -Philip Goldberg, author of *American Veda: From Emerson and the Beatles to Yoga and Meditation, How Indian Spirituality Changed the West* Robert Atkinson's *The Story of Our Time* is a thoughtful, balanced, and gracious contribution from the Baha'i perspective, introducing a stream of unitive evolutionary wisdom that has been ahead of the curve for a long time and deserves to be more widely known. -Cynthia Bourgeault, author of *The Wisdom Way of Knowing*; *The Holy Trinity and the Law of Three*; and, *The Heart of Centering Prayer: Nondual Christianity in Theory and Practice*

Author Q&A1. **What is the significance of the title and subtitle of *The Story of Our Time: From Duality to Interconnectedness to Oneness*?** First, it captures how far our evolving consciousness has brought us, over many millennia. It offers a hopeful, big-picture perspective, so we won't get too caught up in the conflicts of the moment, while alluding to a larger process leading us to a purposeful outcome. Second, it answers the widespread call for a new story that makes sense of the tremendous transition that is happening right now in the world. Third, it provides the much-needed resolution to the problems we face collectively. Also, "story" defines who we all are; we are the storytelling species. Story carries a power that transports and transforms us. Traditionally, the health of a community depends upon knowing their story - and keeping it current.

"Our time" is not just the present moment we are in right now, in which we may feel confusion and conflict; it is the eternal moment, in which the past, present, and future become one. Our time is the spiritual epoch we are living in. 2. How do the seven principles you lay out in the book help us better understand the nature of the evolution of consciousness? There is a direction and a purpose to the evolution of consciousness, and the seven principles the book is built upon lay out the progressive nature of this evolutionary process, which is from duality toward unity and oneness. 3. If we are experiencing an inevitable evolution toward global harmony, why does it matter how we think, act, and believe? Global harmony - and world peace - is a promise found at the heart of the world's religions. Humanity has had the spiritual principles - and tools - in every era to bring this promise into being. It has also had the free will to act in whatever way it chooses. The promise has never been fulfilled on its own, and never will. At every moment in time, or in every spiritual epoch, it has always been up to humanity as a whole to achieve this promise through its own means. It is now more critical than ever that we use our free will to choose to apply the spiritual principles and tools we have at hand to fulfill this promise. What's inevitable is the outcome, not when - or how - it will happen. The consequences of inaction now are far greater - and much farther-reaching into the future - than ever before. 4. What are some ways we can identify what you call "the global movement of our time"? This seems to be getting clearer as time moves on. The distinction between opposing forces is becoming sharper and sharper. One current example is U.S. politics, characterized by the forces of divisiveness and duality. In response to this is the recent Women's March, a spontaneous global event taking place in nearly 40 countries - solidarity on seven continents - that represents the forces of unity and oneness. It's becoming clearer that all the causes of the past couple of centuries, all human rights issues, are converging as the global movement of our time - building a culture of oneness - that's really what it's all about now.

I was impressed by the author's vision of unity as humanity's inevitable future and his rational roadmap of how to attain it. I recommend this book to anyone trying to understand the larger picture behind the growing pains humanity is experiencing on its path towards oneness.

Beautifully insightful, well written and thought provoking!!

very academic

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