

THE STORY OF EVERYTHING

AS TOLD IN THE URANTIA BOOK



AN OVERVIEW BY
MICHELLE KLIMESH

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Square Circles Publishing, Inc.
Glendale, CA

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FIRST EDITION

Cover artwork and design: Patricia Fearey



SQUARE CIRCLES PUBLISHING, INC.

www.squarecircles.com

ISBN#0-9666705-5-8

Library of Congress Control Number: 2002096218

Printed in the United States of America by
Morris Publishing
Kearney, Nebraska

Introduction

Dedication

*To Jaime, who taught me the stunning,
transforming power of love*

*To Diana, who brought joy and sheer delight
into my life*

*To Christopher, who co-created the most
profound treasure I've known on earth*

*To Grace, who brought me a simple gift—the
desire to slow down and BE*

*To a boy on a piano bench who set me on a new
journey nearly thirty years ago*

Introduction

In August of 1994, Wayne and Ute Ferrier started an online study group for students of *The Urantia Book*. Their idea was to read from the beginning of the book and discuss each paper via email. I joined in their study.

Within a few months, the founding members of the online study group dropped away, but I continued to post weekly impressions of each paper. Occasionally other readers—Kevin Brown, Juan Juan, Bud Kagan, and Jim and Cheryl McCallon—contributed offerings while I was out of town.

One night I read the first sixty essays in order. I was stunned to discover that I was writing a condensation of *The Urantia Book*.

From time to time other readers of *The Urantia Book* asked if I was planning to publish the series as a book. Parents wrote to tell me that their teenagers were reading my posts because they were easier to understand than the full text. One friend said that she was forwarding the digests on to her parents, who wanted to know what *The Urantia Book* was about but didn't want to read the whole thing.

One reader who suggested that I turn the digests into a book was Saskia Raevouri of Square Circles Publishing. Over the next few years Saskia read each condensed paper, suggested revisions, and eventually turned my words into camera-ready copy. She guided me through the publishing process and even came up with the title. Without Saskia, *The Story of Everything* would not exist.

I love *The Urantia Book*. It gives me hope that there is sense in the universe, that there is order in apparent chaos, that good will triumph over evil, and that I can and will survive the seeming insanity of the strange planet of my birth. It soothes my weariness to open the pages of *The Urantia Book*. No mere digest will ever take its place.

Writing *The Story of Everything* deepened my view of life in the same way that seeing the first photograph of Earth from space gave me a new vision of our planet. I hope your experience in reading it will be equally valuable.

Michelle Klimesh
November 2002

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