



ECO-PSYCHOLOGY



SUSTAINABILITY



EARTHEARTS



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Heartwood Path Newsletter



ECO-PSYCHOLOGY

Take A Peak At The Topic of the Heartwood Path Online Course
For College Credit, And Get To Know Its Instructor

You can now head down the Heartwood Path while also earning college credit. The online course, offered through Project NatureConnect and the University of Portland, promises to bring to you big insights and access to an instructor with an



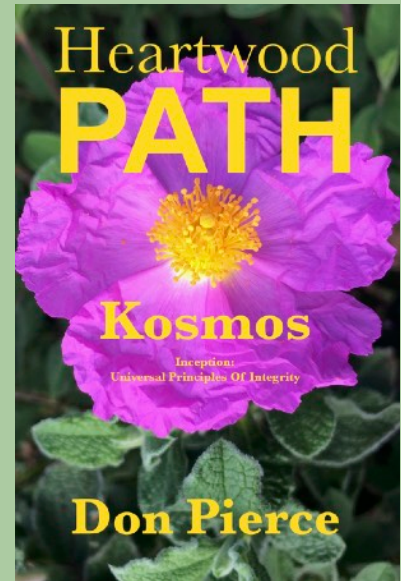
extraordinary background, partly revealed here. The following mock-interview demonstrates why you may want to enroll in the Heartwood Path course “Psychological Aspects of Social Activism.” It is easy to do. Simply call course professor Dr. Michael Cohen at 360-378-6313.

What is the most accurate and trustable form of information? Why?

Since individual experience is the most accurate way to make use of our shared 54 natural senses, it is the most trustable form of information. I first began learning this when, during the summer after First Grade, I would spend my days avoiding family and social meanness chest-deep in the waters of the ox-bow lakes (tree-shaded swamps formed by abandoned stretches of the Mississippi) or the thousand-year-old flooded borrow pits the prehistoric Mound Builders created as they slowly built, one basket of earth at a time, the greatest ancient city and largest mounds of Turtle Island (North America).

What is the greatest truth in your life that you can trust? (Clue: the answer is not God, love, honesty, or nature.)

During my three years of nearly daily amphibious revelry in nearby wetlands (1960-1963, in and around East St. Louis, Illinois) I learned that my natural senses operated best and only during the moments of mindfulness (heightened awareness of the Now). In my chosen muddy places of peace, to think of the past or the future meant that I would miss my cherished in-the-moment encounters with non-human brethren such as the harmless banded Water Snake (often mistaken for the



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series:](#)

Kosmos

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poisonous and deadly Water Moccasin, which did not live this far to the North), or the Stevie Wonder-Like head-waving of the nesting American Bittern, or aptly named Leopard Frog that sunbathed on the Lilly Pad of the American Lotus—no mud, no pad; no pad, no sun-bathing frog or no bright yellow, spectacularly beautiful water lily. I came to appreciate that one day in these waters beat any day on the violent streets or any day in the tension-filled living room.



What is the key factor that makes humanity different or separate from nature?

If not immersed in swamp or watery pit, I would be home, watching the reruns of the Three Stooges or “running the streets,” trying to avoid the oft-nasty stories of the bullies, most being delivered from poorly educated boys five years older than me. I would later learn that their stories, often about imaginary sexual conquests, were inaccurate and disconnected to the kind of trustworthy information I alone gained in the local swamps and hill-side trails near my family’s home. Nobody else wanted to meet face-to face with my Banded Water Snake companion. Nobody else wanted to hang out with my fellow-in-self-baptism—my oft-maligned Alligator Snapping Turtle

Fellow parishioner of our secret church of nature. And that was fine by me. My daily immersions set me on a different path. I did not want to be like the others I was witnessing, for they were, far-too-often, too much like all the others who were different and separate from nature: rather than relying on mindful nature experiences, my family members and the street bullies blindly operated and related according to what they learned in inaccurate and nature-disconnected stories. To this day, I wager that they still do not know what they are missing.

How and why doesn't nature produce any garbage or toxic waste?

While I lived in East St. Louis, my family, like most of our neighbors, would burn our trash in the constantly-smoldering fire at the bottom of the waste barrel, which was kept out by the alley behind our house. Cumulatively, these burning barrels of waste caused smoke that permeated the air. It was always present, so much so we became nose-blind to the acrid stench. The swamp and the woods that led to it, smelled different. My secret hide-away was fresher. Sometimes it smelt mucky; but always, no matter how much anaerobic mud or decaying flesh was present, my riparian hide-away was always a refreshing departure from the smell of the burning trash. Nobody liked the smell of burning trash. It was tolerated out of habit, or out of easiness, or out of cost-cutting. Such missteps were not evident in nature, as I was aware of it. Nature did not burn trash because to do so was unappealing. Nature only does what it is attracted to do, even if it is a moment of novelty, even if it is more difficult, and even if the costs are high. My years immersed in nature taught me that attractiveness and nature belong together. Being appealing is how nature works, it is how it's members survive, it is, in short, the "currency" that, moment-by-moment, keeps the ecology flowing, somewhat in the same way that man-made money keeps the human economy growing. But here's the difference: money in the economy turns to trash, attraction in the natural ecology produces no trash. After hours in my secret trash-free natural settings, the transition from no-trash to lots-of trash usually hit me the hardest next to my family's smoking trash barrel. The shouldering barrel's only saving grace was the warmth it provided on spring or fall evenings. I did not need the fire barrel for drying my clothes after a day in the swamp because, in my watery cathedral of nature, clothing was an unwanted separator, a distracting and unwanted remnant of modern culture that, I felt, reduced the good feelings of attraction that arose in me as I built up unclothed rapport and empathy with my fellow unclothed natural beings.



SUSTAINABILITY

An Alert From Friends Of The Earth: Help Save The Rainforests

Every year, big agribusiness slashes an area of tropical rainforest the size of Oregon. Tropical deforestation displaces communities, destroys countless species of plants and animals, and produces nearly a quarter of all global greenhouse gas emissions.

But these businesses don't act alone -- they're propped up by financial firms like BlackRock, the world's largest investment company. BlackRock has more money invested in big agribusiness than any other company in the world.

We simply can't stop the destruction of places like the Amazon Rainforest unless BlackRock changes its ways. Pressure is building on the company to stop fueling deforestation. But we need your help to convince BlackRock to act!

Fight rainforest destruction: Tell BlackRock to adopt a No Deforestation Policy!

In 2019, the world watched the Amazon Rainforest burn. This destruction was driven by soy and cattle interests. BlackRock's financing enabled the Brazilian government to act with impunity, and many BlackRock-funded companies are poised to profit from the destruction.

Industrial plantation agriculture does not only cause deforestation -- it is also a leading cause of violent land conflicts that dispossess and displace Indigenous peoples and local communities.

BlackRock is one of the largest investors in agribusiness from Brazil to Borneo. So there's a lot it can do to help solve our world's deforestation problem.

But so far BlackRock has done nothing to stop the companies it invests in from tearing down the world's last great rainforests. The investment giant will only change its ways if it feels pressure from people like you!

Protect our planet's rainforest: Tell BlackRock to stop fueling deforestation!

BlackRock manages a jaw-dropping \$7 trillion in assets. Trillions of dollars that could help solve the climate crisis rather than fund rainforest destruction and human rights violations.

So what can BlackRock specifically do to fight deforestation? It can use shareholder power to pressure the companies it owns to end deforestation. It can vote out the managers at these companies that let the problems continue. And when agribusiness companies refuse to change their ways, BlackRock can cut these companies out of its portfolios.

There is no way through the climate crisis that doesn't involve making Wall Street giants like BlackRock change their ways. As a self-proclaimed leader in responsible investing, BlackRock should be investing our dollars in fighting the destruction of lands and communities.

Around the world, people of all ages, from the elderly to the youth, have been rising up to tell BlackRock to divest from destruction. Now we need you with us, Don, to demand BlackRock defund deforestation. Our planet can't wait!

—foc@foc.org

What You Can Do: [Click Here For Help With Your Response.](#)

<https://action.foc.org/page/15602/action/1?ea.url.id=366537&forwarded=true>

EARTHEARTS

Her Father

Don Pierce, recovering from a near-fatal auto accident, is adding more to the fourth book/course, still under construction. Topics will include eco-ethics and valued traits for earthHearts—those who have traversed the Heartwood Path and are working to protect the planet by working on themselves and by helping fellow environmentalists do the same.

His Daughter

Courtney Pierce, back from a trip to Norway, is preparing the printed versions of the Heartwood Path. The first in the series is ready to go. See announcement below.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kosmos, First Book In Heartwood Path Series, Is Ready For Sale, In Printed Version!

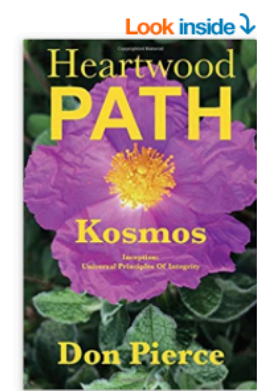
Available now from Amazon Books, the first Heartwood Path Book, Kosmos, now comes in a printed version with a fresh new cover. 738 pages. Book Format: 6x 9 inches.

Order it at:

https://www.amazon.com/Kosmos-Inception-Universal-Principles-Integrity/dp/1674532911/ref=sr_1_1?keywords=Heartwood+Path+Kosmos&qid=1578250932&s=books&sr=1-1

By living so much of our lives indoors, away from natural processes, we have largely forgotten that our abiding, abundant, and authentic happiness is tied to a lovely and sustainable environment. This first book in the Heartwood Path series describes the structure of the integrity that needs to be rekindled if one expects to flourish. As outlined in Kosmos, rightness and wholeness are aspects of the integrity that comes when one's behaviors in the outer world are in accordance with one's intentions and

ethics in the inner world. Included in our topic of integrity are the following subjects: the importance of delighting in attractions in nature, the importance of finding the intersection of your own deep gladness and the world's deep hunger for environmental sustainability, helpful universal principles, good ways to commune with nature, how to receive guidance, information, and healing from nature, how to your dreams as a way to interpret nature's guidance, invoking the world you opt to see, achieving a high level of spiritual maturity, and receiving guidance from your dreams to expand your about integrity. This Heartwood Path book provides the background information needed to understand why anyone seeking to be both "glad" and "green" simultaneously needs to understand the value of applying suitable care to one's individuality and to one's relationships with others. Kosmos includes 117 learning stations, each with an outdoor activity.



See all 2 images

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Don Pierce

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Kosmos: Inception: Universal Principles Of Integrity (Heartwood Path) Paperback – December 23, 2019

by Don Pierce (Author)

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By living so much of our lives indoors, away from natural processes, we have largely forgotten that our abiding, abundant, and authentic happiness is tied to a lovely and sustainable environment. This first book in the Heartwood Path series describes the structure of the integrity that needs to be rekindled if one expects to flourish. As outlined in Kosmos, rightness and wholeness are aspects of the integrity that comes when one's behaviors in the outer world are in accordance with one's intentions and ethics in the inner world. Included in our topic of integrity are the following subjects: the importance of delighting in attractions in nature, the importance of finding the intersection of your own deep gladness and the world's deep hunger for environmental

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Additional topics in Kosmos include:

Determining The Suitability Of The Heartwood Path Courses; Understanding Ecological Groundlessness; Identifying Your Best Strengths; Developing Skills, Wisdom, Virtue, Goodness, And Goodwill; Becoming More Eco-centric; Drawing Close To Nature And Counting Your Blessings; Noting What Went Well Today; Writing Letters

Of Forgiveness And Thankfulness; Maximizing Qualities And Being Satisfied With Quantities; Shedding Yourself Of Misinterpretations; Commemorating The Work Of Others; Responding To Your Indebtedness; Meeting Your Chosen Natural Being; Undertaking Practices That Lead To A Sense Of The Whole; Preparing To Receive Guidance Or Healing From A Natural Being; Developing The State Of Mind Needed To Become An Effective Elder; Explaining The Curative Aspects Of Nature; Delighting In Beings Outdoors; Understanding The Value Of Consent; Uprooting Your Unhappiness; Becoming Whole And Learning How To Process The Outdoor Activities; Stepping Toward A State Of Integrity; Learning About Invisibilities And Visibilities, Negativities And Positivities; Invoking The World You Opt To See; Considering The PIERCE Principle; Assessing How Well You Fit In; Assessing Your Spiritual Fitness; Growing Up Fully; Heeding The Little Things That May Become The Big Things In Your Life; Seeking Personal Growth And Making A Better World For Everyone; Recording Your Operations And Blessings; Making A Sacred Contract; Blending Moral Convictions With “Qualified” Growth; Achieving Higher, Transpersonal Forms Of Thinking, Speaking And Acting; Preparing Yourself For Some Brief Emotional Unpleasantness; Finding The Enjoyment Of Connecting With The Greater Self; Following The Heartwood Path’s Nine Directions; Engaging Yourself In Ecological Reformation; Mastering The Heartwood Path Prerequisites.