

This book is a plainspoken and shambolic masterpiece, moist with tears. It's the honest fruit of a life lived close to the rain, to the whispering of leaves, to the raggedness of the heart. Created by a man who has stopped each day to catch sight of, to chew on, and slowly digest his own shadow, it works a dark and joyous alchemy upon the soul of the reader.

—David Abram, author of *The Spell of the Sensuous* and *Becoming Animal*



I don't know how Stephen has managed to awaken the feeling-wisdom in me with just 'mere' words, but boy - it works - and with such poise, grace, humility and insight. I will revisit this treasure of a book again and again to imbibe its medicine and remember how to feel most inwardly and how to respond most appropriately in my own life to the catastrophic realities of our times.

—Stephan Harding, Deep Ecology and Research Fellow, Senior Lecturer in Holistic Science, Schumacher College, and author of *Animate Earth* and *Gaia Alchemy*



This is a book for all those who feel the grief, pain and suffering of the Earth and our fellow-creatures – including many humans – and are tired of denying it, of trying to shut it out, and of all the false promises that there is a solution: a technique, a method, a system that will make it go away or be okay. It is a book about the central truth of our time: the collapse, already well underway, of the ecosystems that comprise life and support all human societies. Yet unlike so much other writing on the subject, it engages that truth with the deep feeling and emotional honesty that it entails and deserves. Buhner even offers hope (not mere optimism) that on the other side of the wrenching work of going down into the darkness of grief, both inner and outer, there might be a way to reinhabit our only home with integrity, humility and compassion. I know of no more important work.

—Patrick Curry, editor-in-chief of *The Ecological Citizen* and author of numerous books including *Ecological Ethics*, *Enchantment*, and *Defending Middle-Earth: Tolkien: Myth and Modernity*



*Earth Grief* is a guide for navigating the turbulent and changing climate of mind that we have inherited today. When you are in unfamiliar lands filled with perils, it is helpful to find someone who has a feel for the terrain and has come to call that place home. Stephen Harrod Buhner steps into this elder role by telling stories that call us to struggle with our grief for what has died and is dying not only around us, but within us too. As he writes: “while it is true that we need to change human behavior in the outer world it is even more true that we need to change human behavior in the interior world.” By bringing us face-to-face with such important truths, *Earth Grief* helps us reconnect our tears and heart-break to the sustenance we need for a different way of living.”

—Timothy B. Leduc, Associate Professor of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University and author of *A Canadian Climate of Mind*