

Robert Mercier

Reimagining Eden

Poems about Earth's New Age



Beyond the Anthropocene

a poetic odyssey

Reimagining Eden

Robert Mercier

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POEMS ABOUT EARTH'S NEW AGE

INSPIRED BY LOCUS AMOENUS
A PLEASANT PLACE

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Preface

In this intricate tapestry of verse that unfolds across the pages to follow, we navigate through the epoch of the Anthropocene – marking humanity's indelible impact on *our* planet – and cast our gaze toward a hopeful transition into the Symbiocene, an era envisaged as being marked by living in symbiosis with the natural world. This collection of nearly 200 poems serves not only as a reflection upon and a response to our current environmental predicament but also as a visionary look forward into a future where balance, empathy, and coexistence define our relationship with Earth.

The resonance between these poetic musings and Rosi Braidotti's trailblazing work within posthumanist thought provides both framework and inspiration for this endeavour. Braidotti's challenge to traditional humanism – a call for an ethical reconfiguration based on mutual respect among all forms of life – is mirrored in these verses which seek to dismantle anthropocentric views and embrace more equitable forms of existence."

Drawing from Braidotti's insights, this poetry collection attempts to articulate what it might mean to genuinely participate in the 'posthuman condition.' It is about exploring new ways of becoming interconnected beings enmeshed within broader ecosystems rather than mere observers or worse still, relentless exploiters. By considering narratives beyond human *exceptionalism*, each poem becomes part of a larger argument advocating for radical changes toward sustainable futures.

This anthology thus stands at the intersection between ecological critique and earnest yearning; it takes root in gritty realities even as it reaches out towards utopian ideals. Herein lies its kinship with posthumanist discourses: both strive after transformative pathways born from acute consciousnesses of intertwining crises – climate change being but one facet – and aim toward fostering entanglements that enrich rather than deplete life around us.

As such, I dedicate these poems written amidst clouds shadowed by Anthropocene specters yet streaked with Symbiocenic lights – to Rosi Braidotti whose intellectual rigour fuels hope amidst despairing times; who sees potentiality where others see finality. Her scholarship offers much-needed cartographies guiding us through complex terrains seeking those symbiotic relationships that could indeed herald new dawns breaking over worlds deserving better fates than current projections doom them too.

In this fusion space that we mutually inhabit – where art meets academia – we embark collaboratively on voyages. These journeys, perhaps born less out of naïveté than necessity, weave a tapestry of collective salvation. Through threads of passion and cycles of renewal, our endeavours sit at the heart of our journey. As companions navigating through shifting landscapes and evolving thoughts on being, we anchor ourselves in making new horizons dreamed plausible – a shared vision made tangible through words, impressions, and imprints that we leave behind as testament to our stewardship.

This passage reflects true humane actions; a legacy meant to resonate long after tales end whispered by winds rustling leaves which softly proclaim solidarity. This alliance transcends divides, animated by a noble vision wherein intertwined destinies thrive onward.

Such ambition beckons us boldly toward fabrications of tomorrow that begin with stitches made today – an homage placed upon the pedestal of highest esteem held in honour for those dedicated tirelessly to quests and endeavours both admirable and significant.

Profoundly shaping thoughts and perceptions while gently caressing the conscience awake from its dormancy; echoes reverberate between ancestral realms and celestial communes – a tribute extending boundless gratitude.

This beacon casts far-reaching shadows illuminating paths to be tread with less fear but more courage; as transmutation coalesces around heartened wisdom gleaned articulating depths yet explored herein await discovery – an invitation extended to revel in mysteries unveiled.

Named honourably is the task before us – a humble offering for one's venture forth bravely into an illustrious lineage destined to continue...

... In inviting Rosi Braidotti's philosophy into conversation with our poetry, we seek not only to acknowledge her profound influence on contemporary thought but also to embody the ethos of an emergent world ethic that champions life in all its forms. This collection, then, is both a tribute and a testament – to the resilience of Earth, to the potential within humanity for growth and change, and to Braidotti's unwavering belief in our capacity for creating meaningful futures.

It is my hope that these poems do more than merely echo or align with post-humanist theory; rather, they aim to enact it, breathing life into abstract concepts by grounding them in palpable emotional landscapes. To read this anthology is also an act of traversing spaces between species, entities, and beings – acknowledging their inherent interconnectivity and worth beyond utility or hierarchy.

With these verses serving as vessels, we navigate the Anthropocene's tumultuous waters toward hopeful Symbiocenic horizons. Imbued with empathy, they carry autobiographies that encompass not only human experiences but also the entangled lives within ecosystems, unravelling beneath a shared celestial canopy. This journey guides us in reimagining kinship and fostering a convergence of perspectives spanning biodiversity, unity, diversity, co-presence, and flourishing – transcending anthropocentrism and embracing posthuman relationality.

These poems embody aspirations and convergences laid bare; through dialogue amidst differences emerges a potent conjunction of aspirations. The paths outlined by numerous works inspire and provide both a methodological framework and an ethical directive for this poetic exercise.

May each poem within this volume serve as stepping stones towards an understanding of interconnectedness – a means through which readers might encounter themselves anew within the web of worldly relations. Herein lies an invitation: let us traverse together along paths illuminated by our collective imagination, fostered warmly under Braidotti's watchful eye. We welcome the dawn not merely as a dreamt possibility but as a burgeoning actuality, born from our collaborative spirit and endeavour. As winds of change shift direction and course, it

is with hands, hearts, and minds open that we are ready to accept the challenge.

This intricately woven tapestry calls for mutual respect and guardianship through thoughtful interaction amongst all forms of being that inhabit our planet. It invites us to dance in the complex simplicity of existence – to witness and participate fully with compassion in transformational command. Upon the threshold of a new era that beckons us to courageously answer its call, transformative enaction through poetics deeply engages with pressing issues of our time.

It's vital for vibrancy echoing across ages; a singularity among multitude voices enduring love and labour destined to shape forthcoming legacies we will be proud to lend echoing into posterity – crafted today with earnest intent for tomorrow eagerly awaits to unfold...

Thus inspired and guided by the pivotal work of Rosi Braidotti, this book is dedicated with acknowledgment, admiration, and gratitude for the engagement with questions she poses and visions she conjures. It serves as an anthem to an emerging reality vividly portrayed herein – a dedication to renewed commitment in crafting worlds where harmony and sustainability reign supreme. This legacy, inherited and nurtured forward across generations, invites us to marvel at unfolding as we embark on this journey together. It is a symbiotic symphony composed of countless voices joining in chorus – defining rhythms and cadences for a Symbiocene dreamed of, realised, witnessed, and cherished forevermore.

... As we embark on this journey, each poem in our anthology seeks to intertwine with the trajectory Rosi Braidotti envisions, where humans are not apart from but a part of the ecological and cosmological systems that encompass us. This is an undertaking of vast imaginative scope and profound philosophical depth; it calls for a radical rethinking of our place in the universe – one that honours interdependence over dominance, cooperation over competition.

Our verses strive to be echoes of such a future, reverberating with the possibility of life beyond anthropocentrism – a call towards living responsibly within Earth's delicate ecosystems. Drawing deeply from Braidotti's wellspring of post-humanist thought, these poems are narratives woven from the conscious recognition that all forms of existence – human or non-human – are deeply entangled

threads in the intricate fabric of life.

In dedicating this collection to her work, we do so with a shared conviction in the transformative power such perspectives hold: they serve not only as critiques but as vital blueprints for thinking and acting differently within our world. A dedication to Rosi Braidotti thus signifies more than mere homage; it is an acknowledgment that her intellectual labours have irrevocably altered how we conceive relations among beings on Earth – and inspired paths toward creating futures rich in diversity and sustainability.

May readers find within these pages both inspiration and provocation; may you encounter visions that are challenging yet invigorating – an invitation towards collective imagining and crucial moments of historical reflection. This synergy, captured through poetry, expresses resilience and anticipates the harmonization of actions and thoughts as global consciousness shifts to embrace the potential emergence of the Symbiocene. It articulates and speaks volumes in silent rumination, invoking resonant empathy across the divide between human and non-human barriers, dissolving them for mutual flourishing premised on respect.

As kindred spirits join this cause in commonality to experience an existential crisis with a modicum of hope, a glimpse into what could be is forged ahead with mindful stewardship. Care extended underpins an ethic that guides our hands; artistry shapes momentum that propels us forward with the willing audacity to dream – a necessity intertwined with fate in a cosmic dance of perpetual evolution.

This linked destiny we share calls home as it spins vibrations of unique energy. These resonances offer a substantive contribution to ongoing discussions aiming to stir the soul awake from dormant possibilities lurking just beneath the surface of observable reality. It beckons us towards adventure imbued with spirit and unyielding optimism – a foundational belief in our capacity to collectively transcend the confines of present momentary turmoil – to ascend to heights of uncharted creativity and innovation.

This book then becomes less of an artefact than a portal – a gateway

through which to explore the implications of expanded sentience and a planet-centric view, to comprehend the beauty and complexity beyond measure. Poised at the precipice of immense transformation, it aids in bridging from conceptual domains to actionable realities. Bearing witness as dawn breaks on the horizon line anew, denoting initiation into passage rites, humanity embarks willingly to accept the mantle of guardianship within an interconnected realm we are blessed to inhabit.

Honouring the works of scholars, activists, and poets alike who contribute vibrancy and weave into a larger narrative in ever-evolving stories where participation is essential. Crafting an enduring tomorrow that cradles dreams for generations to come acts as gratitude and reverence; forged homage and boundless acknowledgment appreciate the indispensable impact rendered by varied fields of human endeavour.

This imbues our offerings with richness and depth at this crucial juncture in history. It stands as a testament to commitment – the driving force behind inexorable progress – as we tread lightly upon Earth cherishing every step along this path we take together.

In a unanimous voice, a clear tribute rings out, resonating like beacon light; it's a relentless pursuit of understanding, compassion, and unity heralding the arrival of a new epoch crafted lovingly with tender hands. Humbly receiving the torch passed on, lighting the way so that others might follow towards endless exploration. Symbiotic coexistence is celebrated and sung in an eternal embrace...



Who do we think we are?

In a world teetering on the brink of ecological thresholds, REIMAGINING EDEN emerges as a clarion call to envision a new era -- The Symbiocene. This thought-provoking collection of poems not only navigates through the tumultuous landscapes sculpted by human influence but also seeks solace in the possibility of symbiosis between humanity and nature.

Within these pages, readers are invited to embark on a journey that traverses desolation yet always carries within it seeds of hope. As humanity stands at this crucial juncture, these verses serve as poignant reflections on our shared responsibility and potential for forging sustainable futures.

REIMAGINING EDEN offers more than mere contemplation; it is an ode to resilience, urging us towards harmonious coexistence with Earth. These poems breathe life into visions where human actions align with Earth's rhythms -- harboring regenerative whispers calling forth from beneath cracked pavements toward lush horizons yet unclaimed.

Let each poem resonate as an echo -- a reverberation from today carrying timeless truths into tomorrow. We stand at the threshold; may this book inspire both introspection and action towards shaping an enduring legacy for generations to follow.

-- Inspired by Locus amoenus

Keywords: Anthropocene artistic interpretation, Symbiocene artistic interpretation, Glenn Albrecht, Rosi Braidotti, Posthuman knowledge, Ecopoetry, Anthropocene Era, Sustainability Initiatives, Climate Change Action, Environmental Stewardship, Ecosystem Restoration, Green Innovation, Biodiversity Conservation, Renewable Energy Solutions, Eco-conscious Living, Human-Nature Symbiosis, Conservation Technologies, Global Warming Prevention, Future Generations Legacy, Nature Regeneration Projects, Human Impact on Earth, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Carbon Footprint Reduction, Pollution Cleanup Efforts, Protecting Endangered Species, Eco-friendly Practices

