

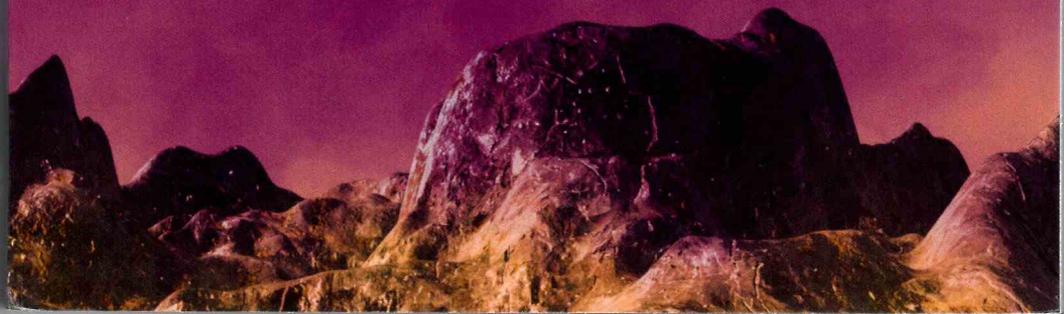
*"The ideal book for understanding the science of global warming...at once elegant, rigorous, and timely." —Elizabeth Kolbert*

# THE PHYSICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE



Lawrence M. Krauss

*Author of *The Edge of Knowledge**



A Post Hill Press Book  
ISBN: 979-8-88845-092-5

The Physics of Climate Change  
© 2021 by Lawrence M. Krauss

All rights reserved

First Post Hill Press Hardcover Edition: March 2021

Cover design by M. Simonsen  
Author photo by Nancy Dahl

No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted by any means without the written permission of the author and publisher.



Post Hill Press  
New York • Nashville  
[posthillpress.com](http://posthillpress.com)

Published in the United States of America

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>PREFACE</i> .....	vii
<i>FOREWORD</i> .....	xi
CHAPTER 1: A RIVER LIKE NO OTHER .....	1
CHAPTER 2: HISTORY AND NUMBERS: HALF EMPTY OR HALF FULL? .....	9
CHAPTER 3: CYCLES AND CYCLES .....	23
CHAPTER 4: EARTH'S BLANKET .....	37
CHAPTER 5: THE BIRTH OF CLIMATE CHANGE .....	53
CHAPTER 6: FORCING THE ISSUE .....	67
CHAPTER 7: BELIEVE IT OR NOT .....	83
CHAPTER 8: SOME LIKE IT HOT .....	95
CHAPTER 9: WHAT WILL BE, WILL BE? .....	109
CHAPTER 10: CLIMATE CHANGE TODAY .....	131
CHAPTER 11: WORST CASE: FROM FEEDBACK TO TIPPING POINTS .....	141
CHAPTER 12: BACK TO THE MEKONG .....	153
EPILOGUE: FORTUNE FAVORS THE PREPARED MIND .....	165
<i>FURTHER RESOURCES</i> .....	169
<i>FIGURES AND PHOTO CREDITS</i> .....	177
<i>INDEX</i> .....	183
<i>ABOUT THE AUTHOR</i> .....	191