



## The Ghost in the Universe: God in Light of Modern Science

By *Taner Edis*

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Is there a God, or a spiritual reality beyond nature? Physicist Taner Edis takes a fresh look at this age-old question, focusing on what we have learned about our world rather than on traditional metaphysical disputes. Emphasizing a search for explanation rather than listing flaws in theistic metaphysics, Edis uses the results of natural science to present a world where complexity, intelligence, and even the sublime heights of religious experience emerge from what is ultimately material and random.

Sympathetically criticizing Muslim and New Age perspectives, as well as Jewish and Christian arguments, Edis argues that a thoroughgoing naturalism leads to a much better explanation of our world. While making it clear that spiritual views have a genuine intellectual appeal, Edis systematically critiques such arguments, contrasting them with stronger naturalistic explanations. Science is central to this naturalistic picture; modern physics, evolutionary biology, and critical history, as well as contemporary psychology and brain sciences, all cast doubt on any spiritual reality.

Bringing together ideas from many disciplines in a style that remains accessible to nonspecialists, and also interesting to scientists and philosophers, Edis provides an informative, in-depth statement of the case for scientific naturalism as the most accurate and powerful description of our world today.

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### Editorial Review

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Bringing twentieth-century sophistication to Laplace's famous eighteenth-century dismissal of God as an unnecessary hypothesis, Edis deploys a rigorous scientific materialism to explain all the marvels of religious faith. That means exorcising spiritual forces from all the miracles of scriptural tradition, from every transport of psychological ecstasy, from every inspiring moral reflection. Edis effects this cosmic exorcism by invoking astrophysics to explain the earth's creation and evolutionary biology to account for the emergence of the human mind. In his zeal to establish his godless credo, Edis challenges not only the precepts of Judaism and Christianity but also those of Islam and New Age mysticism. Of course, religious readers will resist the attempt to compress all truth within the scope of rational demonstration. Some of the devout may even suspect that Edis is conceding more than he realizes when in his conclusion he admits that--despite all of their scientific inadequacies--scriptural poetry and sacred myth still speak to deep human needs. A careful defense of empirical reasoning. *Bryce Christensen*

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### Review

"...a thoughtful reflection on the problems of belief in God by someone who has wrestled honestly with these questions." -- *Research News and Opportunities in Science and Theology*

"...engaging, well-written...presents scientific naturalism at its best. Highly recommended." -- *Free Inquiry, Winter 2002*

"...good enough to benefit believers and nonbelievers alike." -- *The Skeptic*

"...may be one of the few truly essential books about science and religion of recent times." -- *Skeptical Inquirer, Nov/Dec 2003*

"...offers alternative ways to look at and understand the world around us..." -- *About.com*

"a substantive book about science, religion and philosophy...extensive research demonstrated in numerous footnotes and an excellent index..." -- *Rain Taxi Review of Books, Winter 2002/2003*

### About the Author

Taner Edis (Kirksville, MO) is assistant professor of physics at Truman State University.

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#### Curtis Salas:

Often the book *The Ghost in the Universe: God in Light of Modern Science* will bring one to the new experience of reading a new book. The author style to clarify the idea is very unique. Should you try to find new book to see, this book very appropriate to you. The book *The Ghost in the Universe: God in Light of Modern Science* is much recommended to you to see. You can also get the e-book from official web site, so

you can more easily to read the book.

**Joseph Wilson:**

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because while you are reading a book mainly book entitled The Ghost in the Universe: God in Light of Modern Science the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe not known for but surely can become your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a e-book then become one type conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get prior to. The The Ghost in the Universe: God in Light of Modern Science giving you yet another experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful facts for your better life within this era. So now let us present to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will probably be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary shelling out spare time activity?

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**Carole Arehart:**

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