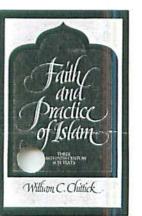


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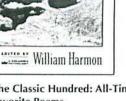
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It will, in 250,000 years. Plutonium is finally not toxic after 250,000 years. It's beyond human comprehension exactly how badly we've damaged ourselves. That's part of what's in the book. The reason to read the book is to get angry enough to do something, to say, "Oh, please would you stop the bull and get on with the nuclear waste problem and stop nuclear testing." It's a book to make people angry and active.

The book states that there were animals and humans in cages on the nuclear testing sites. Who were these people-were they criminals?

It's thought that they were criminals. If you look through the interviews for the one with a man named Robert Carter-he was an atomic veteran-it goes into that a little bit. But there are a number of atomic veterans who say they saw people attached to chain link aluminum fences by handcuffs just wearing overalls or jeans. One assumes they were prisoners because they were doing a lot of nuclear experimentation at that time with prisoners, especially black prisoners, of course-you know black people are always expendable in this culture. And it was not just at the test site. They were doing it in hospitals. They were injecting people with plutonium and radium, just as an experiment

Also, at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, they were injecting dogs with plutonium-the Beagle Project. So there was a lot of experimentation going on and this book is about, as Keith Schneider [of the New York Times] writes in the foreword, "the most prodigiously reckless program of scientific experimentation in United States history."

Why are we doing this to ourselves?

Money. It has nothing to do with us, it has to do with major corporations. It's what Eisenhower, who was a military man, called the military/industrial complex. GE is part of it, you know, "We bring good things to life"? Well, they bring nuclear power plants to life. So does Westinghouse. Major insurance companies are part of the nuclear complex. They are incredibly wealthy. Banks have something to do with it. They have wealth and power to do what they will. Also, we are fighting the government, which is our own money.

So it's a big war to fight. I think it might get better; I think there has been enormously increased consciousness during the ten years that I was working on this. Nuclear testing has to be stopped. They've been trying to negotiate a comprehensive test ban. The United States and Great Britain are the only countries in the U.N. who say no to it. We test Great Britain's nuclear bombs at our test site. They want to continue testing, and they give the most spurious reasons for doing so.

But it's an enormous, powerful, hungry animal that you have to protect yourself from. You have to think of it as something that's going to eat your children alive, because the nuclear waste problem at this point is probably the most serious thing we face.

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Is there a place for nuclear technology?

I think that there is a place for it in medicine. I think the way they use radiation to reduce or cure brain tumors at this point is approaching something miraculous. I think there is a place for it-I'm not totally anti-nuclear-but I do have extreme reservations about nuclear power, because