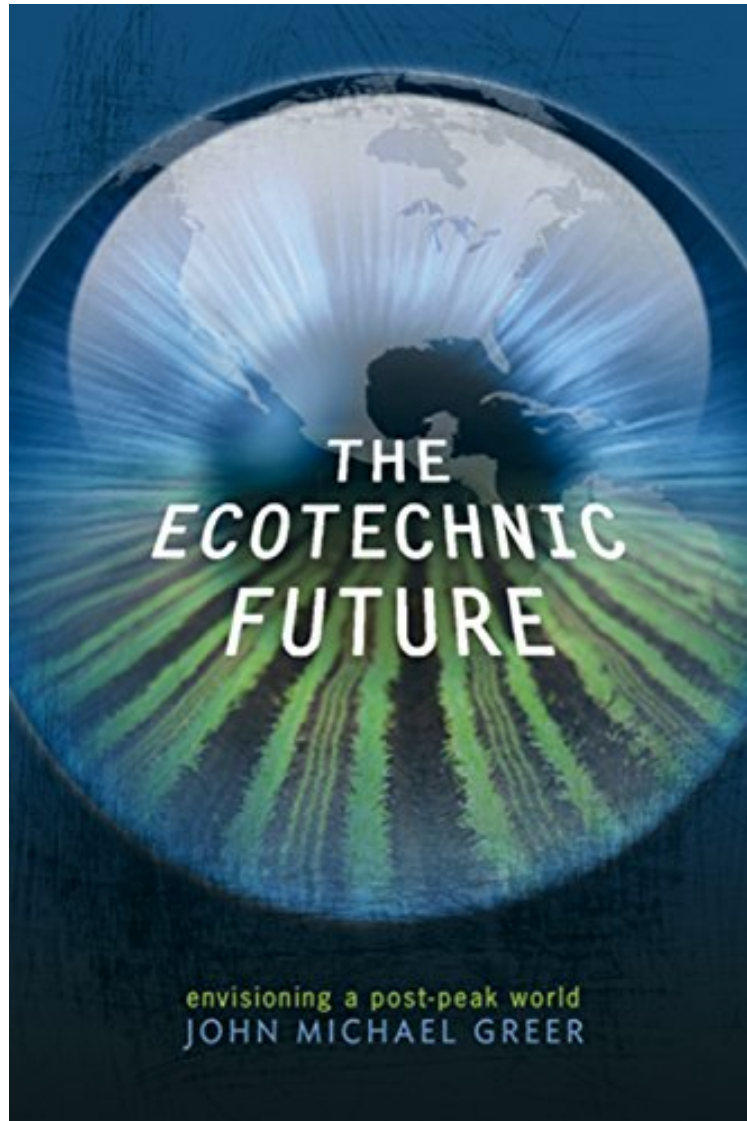


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The Ecotechnic Future: Envisioning a Post-Peak World

John Michael Greer

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John Michael Greer : The Ecotechnic Future: Envisioning a Post-Peak World before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ecotechnic Future: Envisioning a Post-Peak World:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Peak Into the FutureBy KimeraLet me put it this way: If Greer is correct in his predictions then the Ecotechnic Future is one of the most important books now occupying shelf space in any library. And, if he's wrong, at least you spent a few hours enjoying a thought-provoking read.What I like about this book is that Greer shows an unusually large amount of humility and restraint for a futurist. Rather than paint a

dramatic and detailed picture of America's future, he has the maturity to make some broad guesses while acknowledging the details are currently unknowable (and largely irrelevant). Greer is at his best when reminding us that humans get no exemptions from ecological law, and he uses Nature as a great source for metaphors for the current human condition. An articulate writer with encyclopedic knowledge, Greer takes us on a compelling jaunt through a decidedly downbeat future. Weirdly, it was enjoyable. I've bought copies of this book for two of my friends. The ultimate vote. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Loved the Long Descent, but not this. By Brian Rose I found The Long Descent to be a true masterpiece that blended the stories cultures tell themselves with the reality of finite resources. John Michael Greer did such a superb job that I figured I'd have to love this book. I was wrong. This book gets into too many hypotheticals, and feels much more like a science fiction work than an exposition of our future. Perhaps the difference is that The Long Descent had the freedom of generalities and broad strokes where The Ecotechnic Future had the much more difficult task of fine detail. I loved The Party's Over, Twilight in the Desert, The Last Hours of Ancient Sunlight, The Crash Course, Oil at \$200 a Barrel, etc. but I found this book fell flat. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. When I first began reading about the post peak oil ... By Francis W. Cooke When I first began reading about the post peak oil predicament, this was the first book that gave me a sense of hope through the turmoil. Squarely located between denial and total doom, this book is a clear-eyed appraisal of where things are most likely headed. The author, John Michael Greer, is a writer of unmatched clarity and skill. My deepest wish is that more people would read this book.

ldquo;[John Michael] Greer's work is nothing short of brilliant. He has the multidisciplinary smarts to deeply understand our human dilemma as we stand on the verge of the inevitable collapse of industrialism. And he wields uncommon writing skills, making his diagnosis and prescription entertaining, illuminating, and practically informative. Not to be missed. rdquo; mdash; Richard Heinberg, Senior Fellow, Post Carbon Institute and author of Peak Everything ldquo; There is a great deal of conventional wisdom about our collective ecological crisis out there in books. nbsp; The enormous virtue of John Michael Greer's work is that his wisdom is never conventional, but profound and imaginative. nbsp; There's no one who makes me think harder, nbsp; and nbsp; The Ecotechnic nbsp; Future pushes Greer's vision, and our thought processes in important directions. rdquo; mdash; Sharon Astyk, farmer, blogger, and author of Depletion and Abundance nbsp; and A Nation of nbsp; Farmers nbsp; ldquo; In The Ecotechnic Future, John Michael Greer dispels our fantasies of a tidy, controlled transition from industrial society to a post-industrial milieu. The process will be ragged and rugged and will not invariably constitute an evolutionary leap for the human species. It will, however, offer myriad opportunities to create a society that bolsters complex technology which at the same time maintains a sustainable interaction with the ecosystem. Greer brilliantly inspires us to integrate the two in our thinking and to construct local communities which concretely exemplify this comprehensive vision. rdquo; mdash; Carolyn Baker, author of Sacred Demise: Walking The Spiritual Path of Industrial Civilization's Collapse, and publisher/editor, Speaking Truth to Power In response to the coming impact of peak oil, John Michael Greer helps us envision the transition from an industrial society to a sustainable ecotechnic world mdash; not returning to the past, but creating a society that supports relatively advanced technology on a sustainable resource base. Fusing human ecology and history, this book challenges assumptions held by mainstream and alternative thinkers about the evolution of human societies. Human societies, like ecosystems, evolve in complex and unpredictable ways, making it futile to try to impose rigid ideological forms on the patterns of evolutionary change. Instead, social change must explore many pathways over which we have no control. The troubling and exhilarating prospect of an open-ended future, he proposes, requires dissensus mdash; a deliberate acceptance of radical diversity that widens the range of potential approaches to infinity. Written in three parts, the book places the present crisis of the industrial world in its historical and ecological context in part one; part two explores the toolkit for the Ecotechnic Age; and part three opens a door to the complexity of future visions. For anyone concerned about peak oil and the future of industrial society, this book provides a solid analysis of how we got to where we are and offers a practical toolkit to prepare for the future. John Michael Greer is a certified Master Conserver, organic gardener, and scholar of ecological history. He blogs at The Archdruid Report nbsp; (www.thearchdruidreport.blogspot.com), and is the author of The Long Descent.

This is an extremely erudite book, filled with references to philosophies, and ancient works, which is also readable and an exciting addition to what might be called the 'libraries of the future', which try to make sense of our predicament and offer not just hope, but a intellectual route map to a better way of living. mdash; ,earthtimes.org