

"In the early 1990s eight people sealed themselves into a self-contained ecosystem in the Arizona desert. Two decades later, Mark Nelson reflects on his experience inside Biosphere 2 as a microcosm of our global challenges with water, food, and energy. Only with a deep understanding of the biosphere's workings, Nelson argues, can humanity craft an ethical relationship with the planet Earth."

Melissa L. Sevigny, author of *Under Desert Skies*

"A fascinating account of the largest, longest, and most important experiment in closed ecosystems ever conducted."

Chris McKay, Senior Scientist, NASA



Mark Nelson, one of the eight crew members locked in Biosphere 2 during its first closure experiment from 1991 to 1993, offers a compelling insider's view of the dramatic story behind the mini-world. Nelson presents the experiment's goals and results, clearing up common misconceptions and examining present-day implications for global environmental challenges and reconnecting people to a healthy relationship with nature.

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