



# Aldous Huxley: A Biography

*Dana Sawyer*

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Aldous Huxley, whose grandfather was T.H. Huxley, the renowned scientist, and whose great uncle was Matthew Arnold, the Victorian poet, was one of the most respected intellectuals of the 20th Century. A close friend of T.S. Eliot, D.H. Lawrence, Edwin Hubble, Igor Stravinsky, Bertrand Russell, Timothy Leary, and others, Huxley helped shape the modern mind, first with his satirical novels and later with his moral philosophy and provocative theories regarding humankind's destiny. Earlier biographers focused on Huxley's eleven novels, while this book traces his trajectory as a theorist who framed the "perennial philosophy", the view that all religions have a spiritual core found in the writings of their mystics. Huxley's interests in Asian Religions, psychedelic drugs, and the dangers of mass society, environmental destruction and rampant technology are all covered in Sawyer's short, readable and critically acclaimed biography. The Center for Aldous Huxley Studies at the University of Munster, Germany, called the book, "The best-to-date explanation and appraisal of Huxley's metaphysical position." This enjoyable biography makes clear why and how Huxley became a key influence on such contemporary authors as Ken Wilber, Huston Smith, Ram Dass, Deepak Chopra, Alex Grey, Andrew Harvey and Stanislav Grof.

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