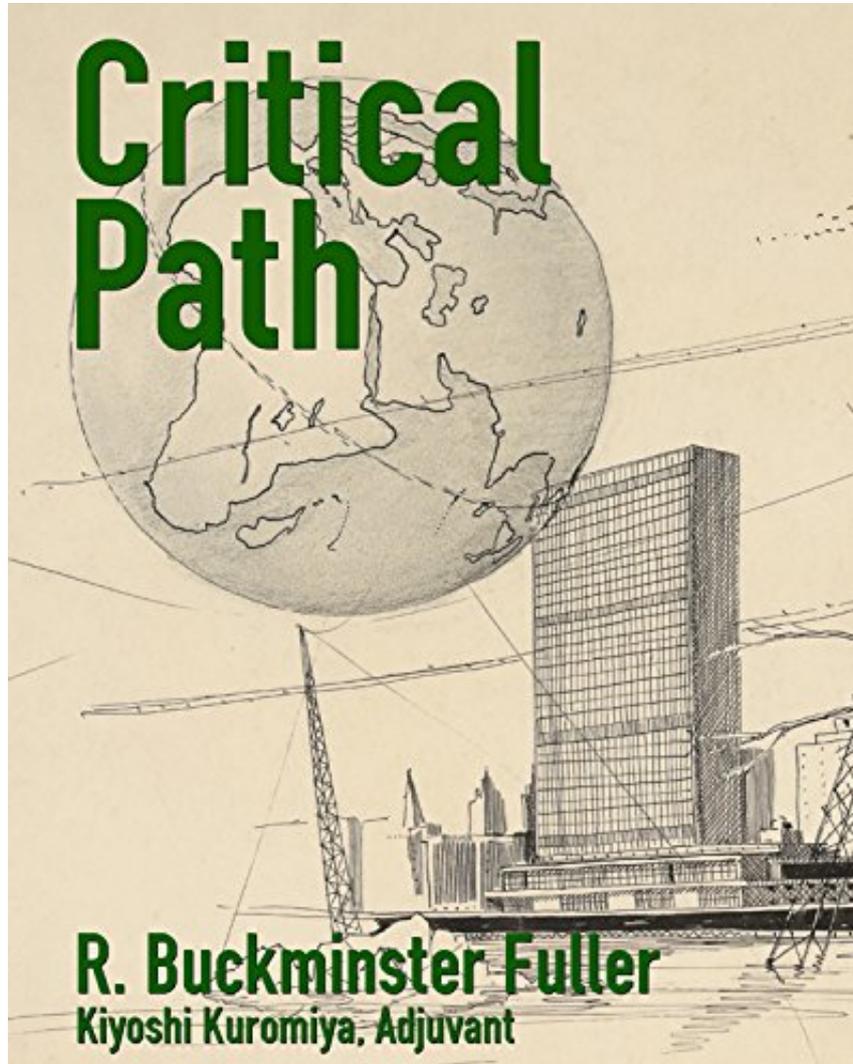


Critical Path



[DOWNLOAD E-BOOK](#)

Synopsis

The masterwork of a brilliant career, and an important document of the crisis now facing mankind. Today we find ourselves in the midst of the greatest crisis in the history of the human race. Technology has placed in our hands almost unlimited power at the very moment when we have run up against the limits of our resources aboard Spaceship Earth, as the crises of the late twentieth century—political, economic, environmental, and ethical—determine whether or not humanity survives. In this masterful summing up of an entire lifetime's thought and concern, R. Buckminster Fuller addresses these crucial issues in his most significant, accessible, and urgent work. *Critical Path* traces the origins and evolution of humanity's social, political, and economic systems from the obscure mists of prehistory, through the development of the great political empires, to the vast international corporate and political systems that control our destiny today to show how we got to our present situation and what options are available to man. With his customary brilliance, extraordinary energy, and unlimited devotion, Bucky Fuller shows how mankind can survive, and how each individual can respond to the unprecedented threat we face today. The crowning achievement of an extraordinary career, *Critical Path* offers the reader the excitement of understanding the essential dilemmas of our time and how responsible citizens can rise to meet this ultimate challenge to our future.

What people say about this book

Abner Rosenweig, "'Everything for everybody or oblivion". This was my first encounter with the renowned R. Buckminster Fuller, and during the course of the book, with its odd abstract coinages and grand schemes, I frequently found myself debating the man's sanity. Sometimes he appears to be raving like a mad man, other times he is blindingly brilliant. I emerged with the belief that RBF was indeed sane, an archetypal genius engineer in the tradition of Archimedes and Da Vinci, and an inspiring, visionary character to boot. He was an odd duck, sure, but not a quack. RBF implicitly warns you in the beginning of *Critical Path* that he's a little different. He thanks his friend e.e. cummings for reminding him that to "be nobody-but-yourself--in a world which is doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else--means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight." To his credit, RBF committed fully to discovering his original self and offering it wholly to the world. This actualization of individual potential should be what education facilitates for everyone; this should be what a human life is all about, and in this sense, Fuller's life is a model human life. While the content of *Critical Path* is not always compelling or even accessible, the reader always senses the presence of a grand, visionary mind grappling with the biggest human questions: Who are we? Why are we here? What should we do? RBF is admirably committed to serving humanity on a global scale and solving our significant social, political, economic, and environmental crises. He demonstrates that, contrary to popular opinion, we can all thrive. He exposes how selfishness and scarcity-thinking contribute to a massively inefficient economy and how, by conceiving of the world as one, we can easily provide for all humanity and take care of the environment. He proposes a logical organization of all world resources with a method he calls the "world game"--using a computer to keep records and make intelligent, need-based allocations. He calls for the elimination of nations in favor of a single government that operates in the interests of the entire planet. In a nutshell, Fuller devised detailed plans for making the planet work for all humanity. It was inspiring to read how bold, independent imagination, when taken seriously, can transform the world. Fuller's inventions traveled far. Yet, it's tragic to recognize that, while Fuller and others like him have the vision and techniques to create an Earthly paradise, the power elite lack the will. We still have a long way to go."

X, "Best Book Ever. Permit me to use this opportunity to lament the death of Prof. Fuller. To my knowledge, as of a couple of years ago, I was the last student of the last faculty member to have served in the same college (of engineering) at the same time as Prof. Fuller. In this sense, I regard myself as the last of the Fuller students. It seems that Prof. Fuller is truly dead, for all that university does now for Prof. Fuller is lend Prof. Fuller's name to a group of picnic tables, the purest insult if ever there were any. Perhaps the new engineering dean will fix that. But what I have done, so, too, must you. Read this book and add your own table of contents in the front pages to help you easily refer to Prof. Fuller's amazing observations as you continue to reflect for

months and years after reading. And when you learn of a professor that is teaching similar philosophies, but not using Prof. Fuller's works, then send that person a small case of a good handful of copies of this book. This is the best book I know; however, humanity needs something better. Too bad there is nothing better, and too bad Prof. Fuller is dead."

Beatrix Warbucks, "Complex like Buckminster Fuller himself.. This book always blows my mind. It's like seeing into the thoughts of a world mover. Check it out. The man certainly fell into the category of intuitive thinker, and his intuitions were mindblowingly accurate in a lot of respects. The same way his Buckyspheres unknowingly complimented the complex nanostructures of fullerenes based off of candle soot structures, the connections in this collection of essays come together to reveal what sometimes seems so complex with transitions in subject so quick, its hard to differentiate from the super associative ramblings of a schizophrenic, and yet, this was one of the most influential men of the 21st century, the second president of Mensa until his death. This book is also good to get a glimpse of what the scientific community used to be, before the streamlining of a post dot com/supercollider media image. This is the era mythified and laughed at in Johnny Quest and later Venture Brothers, one still full of hope and dreams."

blueflintcat, "... this when it was published and thought it was great but a hard read. Bought this when it was published and thought it was great but a hard read. Gave it to a friend so I bought this one to replace the original and it was exactly the same and in very good condition. "R. Buckminster Fuller" was a genius and had a hard time expressing himself without 20 dollar words and run on sentences you won't believe. But this book opened my eyes to the real world and the problems we face. However I am sorry to inform you that we , (the Human Race) hve passed the tipping point of no return in destroying our planet."

L. S. Harvey, "Telling it like it is!. A testimony to the genius of this man. His style of writing is a little dense in places, but well worth reading."

L. M. Hohmann, "A MustRead!. Bought for grandson's 16th birthday after reading my 1983 copy again - best history education and guide to future available."

Philip, "Still relevent today, though it's age is showing.. Critical Path is a thorough investigation of the possibilities open to humanity if it reject national borders and war. I does seem a little out-dated, written as it was in the 80's, but many of the issues that needed resolving then are still in dire need of resolution."

massimiliano balsamo, "Five Stars. Must read if you care about humanity."

[DMCA](#)