Adrian M. Hofstetter, O.P. PhD., is a Kentucky Dominican Sister and environmental scientist who chaired the biology department at Siena College in Memphis. A fellow of the Tennessee Academy of Sciences, she has taught biology at Siena, LeMoyne Owen, Rhodes, Savannah State and Knoxville Colleges. She received a doctorate in zoology from the University of Notre Dame and did post doctoral work at the Universities of Texas, North Carolina, Tallahassee and Montreal. She is the author of "The Organism," "Biogenesis," and "Spontaneous Generation" in the New Catholic Encyclopedia and of numerous other articles in scientific and philosophical books and journals. She has long been a student of Teilhard and gave a lecture on him in the 1960s at the University of Tennessee.

As a peace activist Sr. Adrian was two years with a Brookings Institute regional planning group at Rhodes College in Memphis. Her special interest is Middle East peace, and she has recently returned from her sixth peace mission to Israel. She has also been a participant for three years in Jean Houston's Mystery School and as a psychodramatist gives dream, myth, fairy tale and creation spirituality workshops.

The present study is a revised edition of the lecture Sr. Adrian gave on November 2, 1991 in Riverdale, N.Y. in the Teilhard Lecture Series. It is dedicated to the memory of her friend and mentor Dr. Vincent Edward Smith.