

Larry Mullins was handed a 1955 first printing of *The Urantia Book* in 1968 by an advertising colleague, Clyde Bedell. Bedell was a member of the original Forum that helped publish the Urantia Papers as a book. Larry is author of *Jesus: God & Man* (1976), the first derivative work to be accepted for publication by Urantia Foundation. He has served the Urantia movement as President of the First Urantia Society of Oklahoma, and eight years as a General Councilor for Urantia Brotherhood. He is a noted public speaker and the author of several books on the Self-Actualization process including *Immature People with Power: How to Handle Them* and most recently: *Get Real*. Larry has stated that this history, which took over two and one half years to research and write, is really the product of a devoted team of Urantians who agreed to follow the truth wherever it led. Larry conducts a nationally syndicated retail marketing and management service out of Boulder, Colorado, where he lives with his wife Joan, and youngest daughter Michelle, both of whom are students of the Urantia Papers.



Dr. Meredith Justin Sprunger has had a remarkable career as a college president, professor, and executive administrator, a licensed psychologist and therapist, and an ordained minister. He has served congregations in the midwest and taught at Elmherst College and the Indiana Institute of Technology, functioning as the head of the Department of Psychology, Chairman of the Division of Liberal Arts, and as President. He is the only living colleague of Dr. William Sadler (1875-1969), a prominent Chicago psychiatrist and debunker of psychic phenomena. Dr. Sprunger is a devoted Urantian, serving in numerous capacities including President of Urantia Brotherhood. Dr. Sprunger is probably the most reliable source of first-hand information about the intriguing origin and history of the Urantia Papers. He is founder and executive editor of *The Spiritual Fellowship Journal* and lives in Fort Wayne, Indiana with his wife, Irene.



**Are we children of God, or simply complex animals?
Will we survive death, or are we doomed to extinction?**

Is humankind an accident, or are we part of a grand universe plan?

The Urantia Papers give persuasive answers to these questions. Nearly 500,000 copies of *The Urantia Book* are now in print. But, **who wrote it, and by what authority?** More intriguing and thrilling than any science fiction are the actual events that were set into motion in Chicago nearly 100 years ago and eventually resulted in one of the most astounding publications ever printed. However, until now, a carefully documented history of these Papers, where they came from, and how they became published as *The Urantia Book* has not been told. In *A History of the Urantia Papers* Larry Mullins and Dr. Meredith Sprunger have collaborated to strip away prejudice and superstition and unfold the facts about the origin and history of the Urantia Papers. Whether you are familiar with the Urantia Papers or simply curious about them, you will find *The History of the Urantia Papers* a captivating real-life “mystery” story.

From the Introduction by Ángel F. Sánchez-Escobar, Ph. D.:

“Many members of the Urantian community on both sides of the Atlantic have so far suffered the consequences of an ‘official,’ biased interpretation of the events leading to the materialization, authorship, and controlled dissemination of the Papers, and find them unacceptable. It is my experience, being a Spanish reader of the Papers acquainted with this issue, that due to the lack of a sound narrative, many members of the Spanish-Urantian community are being deceived by a misleading, undocumented interpretation of the origins of the Papers. Mullins’ dissemination and translation into different languages of his competing, well-founded version of the facts will, of course, not be welcomed by the ‘establishment’ with its vested interest in its ‘rightness,’ but it will open the eyes of many readers around the world.”

Ángel F. Sánchez-Escobar, Ph. D. (Vanderbilt University)
Seville, Spain

“Larry Mullins and Dr. Meredith Sprunger’s *A History of the Urantia Papers* is by far the clearest, most carefully researched and documented history of *The Urantia Book* yet to appear in print. Their team explores the inconsistencies in the ‘official’ story, removing much of the fog from the speculative windows through which the formative events of the readership community have been traditionally viewed. The careful review of the process by which changes have been made to the text between printings as well as the concluding analysis of Urantia Foundation’s use of ‘messages’ as a means of attempting to establish proprietary control over the revelation border on shocking and raise questions which cry out for answers. This is a must-read for any serious student of the fifth epochal revelation.”

David Kantor

Chairman: International Fellowship Committee, The Urantia Book Fellowship
Webmaster: urantiabook.org, librurantia.org

PENUMBRA PRESS
BOULDER, CO

PENUMBRA PRESS

A HISTORY of the URANTIA PAPERS

*The New Revelation that Heralds the Turning Point of Civilization
and the Dawn of Moral and Spiritual Enlightenment*

by
LARRY MULLINS
with
Dr. Meredith Justin Sprunger

THE URANTIA PAPERS are perhaps the best kept secret of the twentieth century. They were first published in 1955 as *The Urantia Book*. Nearly 500,000 copies are now in print, although *The Urantia Book* has never been advertised or promoted, and has virtually remained unreviewed. It has been translated into French, Spanish, Finnish, Estonian, and other languages. Within its 2,097 pages and over one million words, *The Urantia Book* purports to unfold nothing less than the evolutionary story of humankind and the mysteries of the universe. Any thinking person would be forced to assume a skeptical attitude about such claims. Yet, there may be more closet readers of the Urantia Papers than any other publication on earth. It is known to be in the Vatican library. Many Christian ministers use it as source material for sermons. Scientists have expressed surprise at the accuracy of some of its disclosures. However, in general, very few people admit to being readers of *The Urantia Book*.

The origin of the Urantia Papers has been shrouded in superstition and mystery. With the publication of this new history, for the first time a serious reader can examine the complete, documented story of the Urantia Papers and weigh the credibility of the individuals who were somehow involved with the work’s publication as a book. The Urantia Papers may be one of the best evidences that the concept and principle of revelation is a valid one. If so, human beings may indeed be children of a loving and concerned God, and may be quivering on the very brink of an unimaginably exciting, enlightened, and benevolent new era.



PENUMBRA PRESS
BOULDER, CO