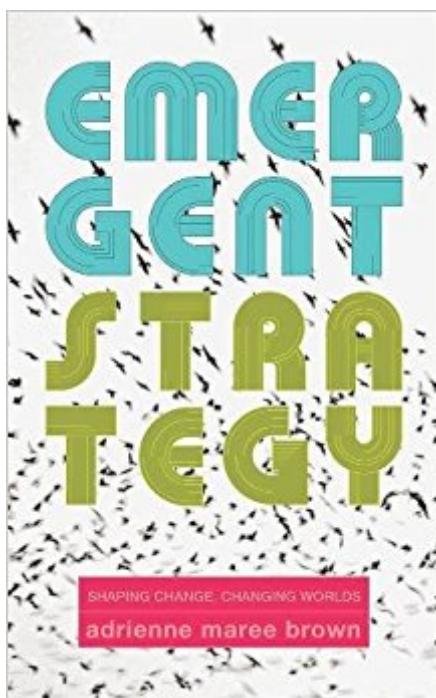


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# Emergent Strategy: Shaping Change, Changing Worlds



## Synopsis

Inspired by Octavia Butler's explorations of our human relationship to change, Emergent Strategy is radical self-help, society-help, and planet-help designed to shape the futures we want to live. Change is constant. The world is in a continual state of flux. It is a stream of ever-mutating, emergent patterns. Rather than steel ourselves against such change, this book invites us to feel, map, assess, and learn from the swirling patterns around us in order to better understand and influence them as they happen. This is a resolutely materialist &spirituality-based equally on science and science fiction, a visionary incantation to transform that which ultimately transforms us. Adrienne Maree Brown, co-editor of Octavia's *Brood: Science Fiction from Social Justice Movements*, is a social justice facilitator, healer, and doula living in Detroit.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Necessary, vital, and timely." Ayana Jamieson, Octavia E. Butler Legacy Network  
"Adrienne leads us on a passionate, purposeful, intimate ride into this Universe where relationships spawn new possibilities. Her years of dedication to facilitating change by partnering with life invite us to also join with life to create the changes so desperately needed now." Margaret Wheatley, author of *Leadership and the New Science*  
"Adrienne has challenged me, enlightened me and reminded me that transformation happens in our natural world every day and we can borrow from it strategies to transform ourselves, our organizations, and our society." Denise Perry, Black Organizing for Leadership

and Dignity (BOLD)–A word/heart sojourn through the hard questions. Makani Themba, A facilitator for the Movement for Black Lives–Emergent Strategy reminds us, directly and by example, that wonder (which at its heart is love), is the foundation of our ability to shape change and create the world we want. Alta Starr, leadership development trainer at Generative Somatics–Drawing on sources as varied as poetry, science fiction, forests, ancestors, and a desired future, Emergent Strategy speaks with ease about what is hard and brings us into that ease without losing its way. A Savor and enjoy! Elissa Perry, Management Assistance Group; Necessary, vital, and timely. Ayana Jamieson, Octavia E. Butler Legacy Network; Adrienne leads us on a passionate, purposeful, intimate ride into this Universe where relationships spawn new possibilities. A Her years of dedication to facilitating change by partnering with life invite us to also join with life to create the changes so desperately needed now. Margaret Wheatley, author of Leadership and the New Science; Adrienne has challenged me, enlightened me and reminded me that transformation happens in our natural world every day and we can borrow from it strategies to transform ourselves, our organizations, and our society. Denise Perry, Black Organizing for Leadership and Dignity (BOLD); A word/heart sojourn through the hard questions. Makani Themba, A facilitator for the Movement for Black Lives; Emergent Strategy; reminds us, directly and by example, that wonder (which at its heart is love), is the foundation of our ability to shape change and create the world we want. Alta Starr, leadership development trainer at Generative Somatics; Drawing on sources as varied as poetry, science fiction, forests, ancestors, and a desired future, Emergent Strategy speaks with ease about what is hard and brings us into that ease without losing its way. A Savor and enjoy! Elissa Perry, Management Assistance Group

adrienne maree brown, the Co-Editor of Octavia’s Brood: Science Fiction from Social Justice Movements, is a social justice facilitator, healer, doula and pleasure activist living in Detroit. She is a student of emergence, somatics, transformation and science fiction. She is part of the training body of generative somatics, and coordinating the Just Films Narrative Shift Program for Allied Media Projects. She is the 2015-2016 Ursula le Guin Fellowship, the Knight Arts Challenge for 2013 and 2015, a Kresge Literary Arts Fellow for 2013, in the inaugural Speculative Fiction Workshop at Voices of Our Nation 2014, and a graduate of the Clarion Sci-Fi and Fantasy Workshop in 2015.

This is one of the most innovative approaches to organizational development I've ever read. It is a brilliant, poetic and practical manual for facilitating and running meetings, groups, companies and campaigns. With real world examples of how emergence strategies can help us work smarter and not harder, to bring more presence, aliveness, joy and hope into our efforts to make the world, and our everyday lives, better. adrienne maree brown is truly masterful at weaving together threads of different political, social, economic, spiritual, and even science fiction theories into a very accessible guide for anyone who seeks to participate in changing the world.

I decided to read this after Monique Tula, head of the Harm Reduction Coalition mentioned it from the opening plenary of the the international harm reduction conference in Montreal a couple months ago. Suffice to say, my head started to explode with excitement and recognition of the wisdom contained in the pages. It has altered the way I am going about organizing and forming community, how I view the role of harm reduction in society, how I view myself as a leader and participant in harm reduction as a movement and how I can approach the work of building momentum towards community based solution in my home of Western MA. I can't recommend it more highly. I have given away at least 5 copies and have it on my Kindle as well as having a hard copy. I have no doubt I will refer to it again and again. To say it has changed my life is not an exaggeration.

I have gotten as far as page 3, and that was enough for me stop and write this review: This is a must-read for anyone who is participating in civic life at all, or even thinking about it. I've been following the author's writing and activism for years, and it took all of these 3 pages to convince me she's condensed her unique and brilliant worldview into this book. I may have more to say later, but this is the most exciting read on deep political strategy (in the biggest, broadest, and deepest sense) that's been published in the 15 years I've been an activist.

This book is a brilliant and necessary read for those working towards freedom and liberation in their everyday lives. I read this book on my commute to work and found myself crying as I turned the pages. I am not yet done reading and will update my review but had to say write something because I was so moved. I am highlighting and taking notes and will pass this masterpiece along when done.

Some of the best most brilliant and boldly honest writing out there.

Life-altering book! I highlighted or underlined most of the content & shared it at work.

essential reading for anyone trying to not just change, but transform their communities

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