

ALAN WEISMAN

Alan Weisman is a prize-winning journalist and author who has traveled the world extensively learning and writing about peoples and cultures and the global environment. He lives in Cummington, Mass.

He was born on March 24, 1947 in Minneapolis and grew up in his birthplace with his parents, Simon Weisman (attorney) and Charlotte Weisman (homemaker). Weisman was involved with nature at a young age and he and his friends considered the Minneapolis wetlands their “playground” (*Enzia*). He married Diana Papoulias in 1980 but divorced seven years later. Weisman is currently married to Beckie Kravetz, a sculptor, and lives in western Massachusetts. He is the author of the award winning book, *The World Without Us*, along with six other nonfiction books mainly about how the environment, economics, international relations, human society, and culture intersect (*arizona.edu*).

Weisman received a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science degree in Journalism from Northwestern University (*Contemporary Authors Online*). He is presently a senior editor and producer for Homeland Productions, an independent, non-profit journalism cooperative, and also a Laureate Professor teaching International Journalism at the University of Arizona.

Weisman began his career in 1970 as a substitute teacher, writer, and photographer (*Contemporary Authors Online*). He started teaching at the collegiate level at Prescott College before moving on to the University of Arizona. In the early 80's, Weisman spent a large amount of time volunteering, writing, and working in Mexico (*Contemporary Authors Online*). He was also a contributing editor for the *Los Angeles Times Magazine*.

Weisman's articles have appeared in the New York Times Magazine, Atlantic Monthly, Harper's, Discover, and have also aired on NPR. *The World Without Us* was included in *Best American Science Writing 2006*. Other books he has written include *We, Immortals*; *The American Cowboy: A Portrait*; *La Frontera: The United States Border with Mexico*; *Gaviotas! A Village to Reinvent the World*; *An Echo in My Blood: The Search for a Family's Hidden Past*; and *Prince of Darkness, Richard Perle: The Kingdom, the Power, and the End of Empire in America*. His latest book, *Countdown: Our Last Best Hope for a Future on Earth?*, was just released September 2013 winning the National Library of China's Wenjin Book Prize.

Weisman has received countless other awards including a Four Corners Award for Best Nonfiction Book, the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Citation, and the Best of the West Award in Journalism.

