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Preface

I have always enjoyed explaining things. I need to explain things for my own enjoyment: I need to explain things to other people. I spent daydreaming — telling myself stories — explaining to laymen how to understand some of the more complex aspects of a bit of a ham, but it's more than that. I needed a conceptual tool for organizing my ideas about problems. So it was natural that it would eventually try my hand at writing a book for a general audience. A few years ago I decided to take the plunge and write a book on the debate between myself and Stephen Hawking about information that fell into a black hole.

But just about that time, I found myself in the middle of a terrific hurricane. The issues involved were not only scientific but also the origin of the laws of physics. The book "The Anthropic Landscape of Physics" introduced a new emerging concept that I had developed. It had stirred up an enormous fuss in the physics community that by now has spread to philosophy and beyond. The Anthropic Landscape represents an idea that challenges not only on current paradigm science but also on the profound cultural question of the nature of the political landscape: can science be used to understand the universe appears to be uncannily