

CONTENTS

Foreword	8
Introduction	12

ACT I

1. Three revolutions that shaped our planet	19
2. A Scottish janitor and a Serbian mathematician discover Earth's hair trigger	33
3. A "wise man" arrives	40
4. The Goldilocks epoch	47
Colour plates A	
Sleeping giants: Antarctica	A1
Rupture with the past	A2-3
The Earthshot	A4

ACT II

5. Three scientific insights have changed how we view Earth	65
6. Planetary boundaries	74
7. Hothouse Earth	89
8. Emergency on planet Earth	96
Colour plates B	
Sleeping giants: The Amazon	B1
The Great Acceleration	B2-3
Planetary boundaries	B4

ACT III

9. Planetary stewardship	107
10. The energy transition	118
11. Feeding 10 billion people within planetary boundaries	129
12. Inequality is destabilizing Earth	142
Colour plates C	
Novel entities	C1
The network effect	C2-3
A planet transformed	C4
13. Building tomorrow's cities	155
14. The population bomb defused	165
15. Taming the technosphere	171
16. A global economy within planetary boundaries	182
Colour plates D	
Pathways to stabilize Earth	D1
Look back at what we have achieved	D2
The Global Safety Net	D3
The rise in complexity: Major ruptures in the evolution of Earth	D4
17. Earthshot politics and policies	196
18. The roaring 2020s: Four tipping points are converging	204
19. Wise Earth	219

Sources 228

Index 233

Acknowledgments 240

Picture credits 240