

## One-Straw Revolutionary

The Philosophy and Work of Masanobu Fukuoka

Larry Korn

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“ **The first book to offer an intimate look at the philosophy and work of one of natural farming’s most influential practitioners.** ”

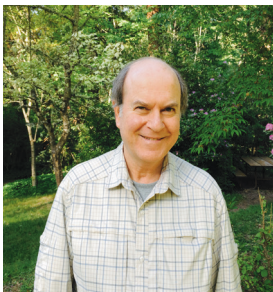
Japanese farmer and philosopher Masanobu Fukuoka (1913–2008) wrote the international bestselling book *The One-Straw Revolution* (1978), a manifesto on his approach to no-till agriculture that requires no machinery, no chemicals, no prepared compost, and very little weeding or pruning.

When it was first published, the book presented a radical challenge to the global systems that supply the world’s food. Larry Korn, who was apprenticing with Mr. Fukuoka in Japan at the time, helped translate the manuscript into English and brought it to the United States, knowing it would forever change the conversation about how we grow our food. Edited by Korn and Wendell Berry, *The One-Straw Revolution* was an immediate success and established Mr. Fukuoka as a leading voice in the struggle against conventional industrial agriculture. This landmark book continues to inspire readers today.

*One-Straw Revolutionary*, distills Korn’s experience of more than thirty-five years of study with Mr. Fukuoka, and explains how natural farming can be used practically in areas other than agriculture, including personal growth and development, and for leading a richer and more fulfilling life.

Korn also discusses natural farming’s kinship with the ways of Indigenous cultures and traditional Japanese farming. At the same time, he clearly distinguishes natural farming from other forms of agriculture, including scientific and organic agriculture, and permaculture.

*One-Straw Revolutionary* offers readers a rare insight into natural farming and what Mr. Fukuoka was like as a person. It explains how simple farming naturally actually is and why it offers our only real hope for reestablishing a wholesome relationship with the Earth.



**Larry Korn** is an American who lived and worked on the farm of Masanobu Fukuoka for more than two years in the early 1970s. He is translator and editor of the English language edition of Mr. Fukuoka’s *The One-Straw Revolution* and editor of his later book, *Sowing Seeds in the Desert*. Korn accompanied Mr. Fukuoka on his visits to the United States in 1979 and 1986. He studied Asian history, soil science, and plant nutrition at the University of California, Berkeley, and has worked in wholesale and retail plant nurseries, as a soil scientist for the California Department of Forestry, and as a residential landscape contractor in the San Francisco Bay Area. Korn has taught many courses about permaculture, natural farming, and local food production throughout the United States. He currently lives in Ashland, Oregon.

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