

# Future on Fire

## Capitalism and the Politics of Climate Change

David Camfield • Foreword by Dharna Noor

Climate change is already affecting millions of people. Governments talk about taking action to limit global heating to 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, but the greenhouse gas emissions allowed by their policies have the Earth on track to heating far more than that by the end of the century—a level of heating that will have truly disastrous consequences. Visionary plans for how to slash emissions and make society better at the same time abound, including various Green New Deals. But how can we make the changes that are so urgently needed?

*Future on Fire* argues that a just transition from fossil fuels and other drivers of climate change will not be delivered by businesspeople or politicians that support the status quo. Nor will electing green left leaders be enough to overcome the opposition of capitalists and state bureaucrats. Only the power of disruptive mass social movements has the potential to force governments to make the changes we need, so supporters of climate justice should commit to building them. Confronting the question “what if heating above 2 degrees becomes unavoidable?” and refusing to despair, David Camfield argues that even a ravaged planet is worth fighting for—and that ultimately the only solution to the ecological crisis created by capitalism is a transition to ecosocialism.

### ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

**David Camfield** teaches labour studies and sociology at the University of Manitoba and has been involved in social justice efforts since high school. He is the author of *We Can Do Better: Ideas for Changing Society* and *Canadian Labour in Crisis: Reinventing the Workers' Movement*.

**Dharna Noor** is a climate and environmental justice journalist. She currently covers climate change for the *Boston Globe*. Previously, she worked as a writer for *Earther*, *Gizmodo's* climate vertical, and before that, she led the Real News Network's climate team. Her writing has appeared in publications including *In These Times*, *Jacobin*, and *Truthout*, and was also featured in a 2021 anthology on climate justice movements called *The World We Need*. She lives in Baltimore.

### ACCOLADES

“At last, a book that can be shared with anyone awakening to the urgency of climate justice. In clear and accessible prose, *Future on Fire* shows us why we are in an ecological crisis—and what it will take to move beyond it. With meticulous care, David Camfield lays out sharp and compelling arguments for building mass movements that set their sights on ecosocialism. Spread the word!”

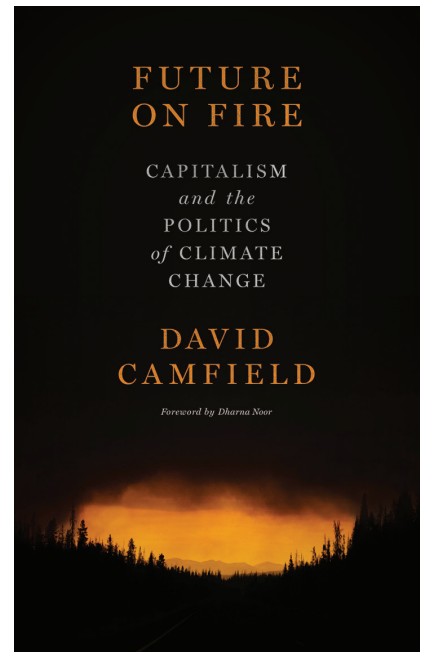
—David McNally, author of *Global Slump: The Economics and Politics of Crisis and Resistance*

“Naomi Klein says only mass movements can save us from climate catastrophe. In this clear, concise, and absolutely convincing book, David Camfield shows why that is, and how we can build an effective movement to stop capitalism's deadly assault on our planet. Essential reading for every climate activist.”

—Ian Angus, author of *Facing the Anthropocene* and editor of [climateandcapitalism.com](http://climateandcapitalism.com)

“Facing up to the climate crisis means building mass movements, but what does this entail? David Camfield has given activists an indispensable guide to the key issues and the practical implications.”

—Gareth Dale, co-editor of *Green Growth: Ideology, Political Economy and the Alternatives*



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