



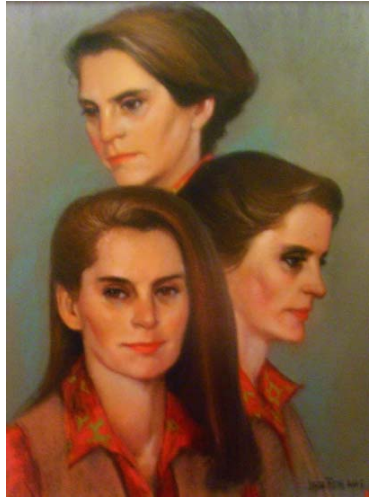
**Two  
Paths  
to  
Heaven's  
Gate**

**by Nan Dieter Conklin**

## Two Paths to Heaven's Gate by Nan Dieter Conklin

National Radio Astronomy Observatory is pleased to publish Dr. Conklin's memoir. For order information, see the form on the next page.

"Nan Dieter Conklin was a prominent figure in what was 50 years ago an entirely new science, radio astronomy. She was the first American woman to complete a Ph.D. and, in 1952, to publish original research in radio astronomy. Over the course of her impressive career at Harvard and Berkeley, she pioneered studies of neutral hydrogen in nearby galaxies that are members of the local group and of the structure of the interstellar medium in the Milky Way and other galaxies. She also played a key role in early discoveries and investigations of interstellar masers. In this engagingly candid memoir, Nan discusses the evolution of her scientific work and her interactions with the other senior scientists of her day, writing with continuing fascination of discoveries both accidental and painstakingly accomplished." (*W. Miller Goss, National Radio Astronomy Observatory*)



*Three faces of Nan. Pastel by  
Jade Fon, 1969.*

"Nan chiefly embodies the virtues that I have found to be common among women scientists of her generation: clear sighted devotion to the unworldly goal of gaining knowledge, a great capacity for pleasure and delight in the natural world and in the creative endeavours of others, almost innocently regardless of social prejudices like race, nationality or creed.

And a distinct lack of capacity for angst or for suffering fools gladly.” (From the Foreword by Claire Hooker, University of Toronto).

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