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An Interview With

Sandy D'Entremont

Co-author of Path of the White Wolf

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How do you define shamanism? How does it define you?

I define shamanism as a practice that reconnects us to the mystery, power and beauty of all that is to restore well-being. This practice incorporates healing methodologies that build and revitalize spiritual, emotional, mental, and physical health and strength via a process of accessing information and assistance from the spiritual world. A shamanic perspective sees all things in relationship – not just humans and the challenges of being human – but all of nature, including the spirits. The shamanic perspective gives me a foundation for viewing the world and allows me to see the sacred in all things.

You and Robin bring different experiences and perspectives to this project. What did you draw upon for this book?

For this book I drew upon a life-long intuitive relationship to my environment and all those that inhabit it. I have studied earth-based spirituality, Eastern traditions, energy healing, shamanic practices, Medicine Wheel and Sun Dance Way teachings and ceremonies. And I also have my personal experiences as a seeker, student, and healer.

You describe your area of expertise as more "contemporary". Can you explain the difference between contemporary and traditional practices?

Traditional shamanic practices are indigenous teachings handed down in the oral tradition from teacher to student/apprentice. I have a deep respect for the traditions of all paths, and would never assume to represent a specific tradition, as this is not my direct heritage. Many of the teachings in Path of the White Wolf are based on traditional teachings as Robin and I received them from traditional teachers. Yet our audience is often contemporary, suburban people seeking a deeper connection to our Mother Earth and to Spirit. So, in service to a contemporary society, Robin and I chose to present the teachings in Path of the White Wolf using some of those linear tools familiar to our Western society. My area of expertise is defined as more 'contemporary' because this is the community to which I am in service.

From the writer's perspective, how did you manage the collaboration process?

Managing the collaboration process was one of the easiest things I've ever done. Robin and I write very similarly, and we each chose a set of chapters, sharing, improving, and proofing to expand each section. The book essentially wrote itself in a matter of months!



Why did you feel compelled to write this book?

Robin and I felt compelled to write this book because we wanted to make these core, basic teachings available and written for anyone to read. And we wanted to do this in a good way to offer people the opportunity to find their own direct connection to their spirituality, and experience a first-hand relationship with their spirit guides and allies, as well as our Mother Earth.

What is the single most important message or lesson you hope the reader will take from this book?

The most important message or lesson I hope readers receive from this body of work is that they have the ability to seek and find answers for themselves, and that they can initiate change in their lives this very moment.

Are you planning to write more books?

Yes, I currently have a novel in process, a coming-of-age story. And down the road, who knows, perhaps a second cycle of Medicine Wheel teachings?

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