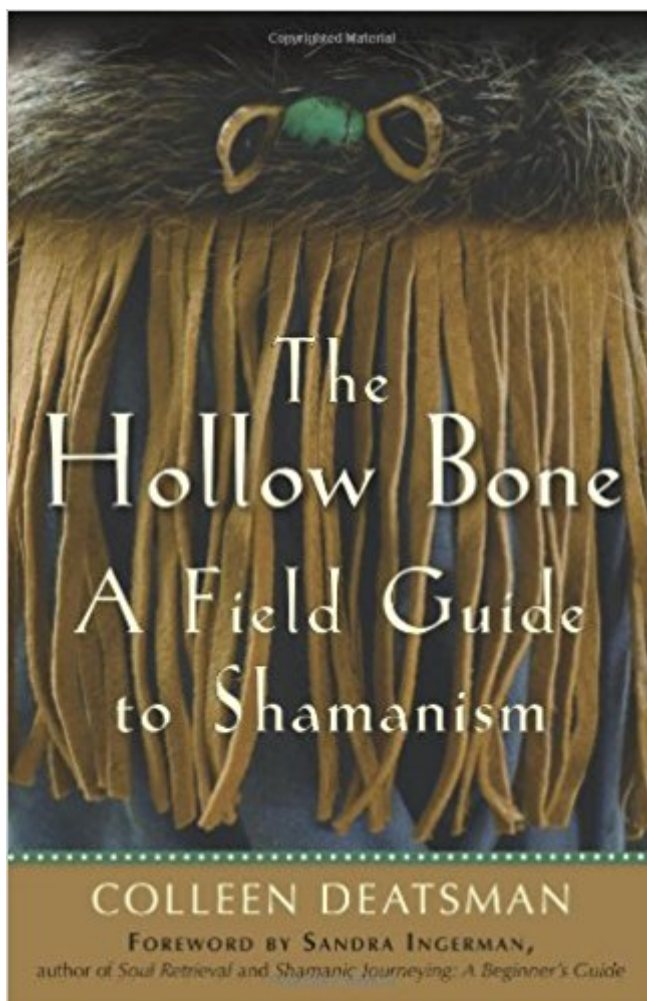


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The Hollow Bone: A Field Guide To Shamanism



Synopsis

Shamanism is the oldest living path of spirituality and healing, dating back tens of thousands of years, yet many people don't know what it is or are confused about the practice. In *The Hollow Bone*, shaman, teacher, and author Colleen Deatsman unveils the mysterious world of Shamanism as it is still practiced today all around the world. Deatsman explains that shamanism is not a religion with a doctrine, dogma, or holy book. Rather, it is a spirituality rooted in the idea that all matter has consciousness and that accessing the spirit in all things is part of what keeps the world in balance and individuals healed and whole. *The Hollow Bone* examines shamanism's history, its core beliefs, and how it is practiced all around the world. It includes a glossary of terms, resources for finding and working with shamanic teachers, and over two dozen rare photographs and illustrations showing the magnificent range of shamanic tools, rituals, practitioners, and traditions. This comprehensive introduction answers many frequently asked questions such as: * What is shamanism? * Where is it practiced? * What are the beliefs and understandings inherent to shamanism? * Who are the shamans? * What do shamans do? * Can anyone train to be a shaman? * Where can I learn more?

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Weiser Books (October 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1578634989

ISBN-13: 978-1578634989

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.6 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #135,679 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #87 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Shamanism](#)

Customer Reviews

"A must read for anyone interested in shamanic life and practice. This book delivers the vital message that shamanism is both heart centered and earth honoring and that shamanic healers are 'hollow bones' of the Spirit. I am putting it at the top of my students' book list." -C. Michael Smith (Mikkal), author of *Jung and Shamanism in Dialogue* "If you've ever wondered what shamanism really is, and how the practice of this venerable tradition blesses our lives and modern world--or if you live and work within a shamanic worldview and need a boost--then consider yourself fortunate

to have Colleen's passionate voice and compassionate nature as 'one who knows' through *The Hollow Bone*. Colleen has done a masterful job in showing how shamanism fits into our world today, why it is important, and how to find your own way in making this world a better place for all. Read this book as soon as you can - and 'see the soul of the world in every rock, stream, bird, and cloud.'" -Nan Moss and David Corbin, authors of *Weather Shamanism: Harmonizing Our Connection with the Elements*"This guide to spiritual knowledge and wisdom empowers the reader to find their spiritual path and the connection of all life - animate and inanimate, visible and invisible. Colleen shines a light on ancient ways while helping you to integrate tools and spirituality into daily life to elicit powerful personal and global transformation. A must read for a beginner on the path!" -Margaret Ann Lembo, author of *Chakra Awakening: Transform Your Reality Using Crystals, Color, Aromatherapy and the Power of Positive Thought*"A fascinating look at a worldview that is both ancient and timeless. Like any shamanic practice worth its salt, reading *The Hollow Bone* will challenge cherished beliefs and stretch readers way beyond comfort. Open it, read it, and apply it - only if you dare." -Mark Stavish, author of *Between the Gates: Lucid Dreaming, Astral Projection, and the Body of Light in Western Esotericism*"In *The Hollow Bone*, Colleen Deatsman reveals how the ancient ways of the shaman offer you time-tested pathways to the heart and soul of living in deep wholeness. Stepping back into relationship with the spirit of yourself, nature and the cosmos can provide you with a joy that is both lasting and profound!" -Evelyn C. Rysdyk, author of *Modern Shamanic Living: New Explorations of an Ancient Path* and founder of Spirit Passages"A comprehensive exploration of shamanism and its application to the needs of our modern times, *The Hollow Bone* brings clarity to a word often misused and misunderstood. True to Colleen Deatman's expressed purpose, her words are a bridge between the worlds and bring the possibility of Spirit to the collective challenges we all face. Over the years, I have hoped for a book that demystifies shamanic work and makes it accessible to a wider audience. This is that book." -Myron Eshowsky, author of *Peace with Cancer: Shamanism as a Spiritual Approach to Healing*; shamanic mediator/trauma healing activist"The *Hollow Bone* is a treasure trove of information on the origins, symbolism, and history of shamanism, humankind's first spiritual discipline. But much more than informative, the text is experiential, guiding the reader through the author's apprenticeship and initiation into the spirit world of the shaman, and demonstrates that Spirit is still vibrant and active in our hearts, as it has been since the beginning of time. A must-read for everyone journeying on the shaman's path." -Larry Peters, PhD, Tibetan Shaman and leader of Nepal Spirit Excursions"Shamanism was always a word that scared me. It evoked images of animal spirits entering a person's body-inevitably in a poorly lit tent deep in the jungle. But the word is increasingly

becoming part of the general spiritual vocabulary in America. And this book was the perfect way to demystify a word (and set of practices) that is still poorly understood. Deatsman is the perfect person to write this beginner's guide to Shamanism. A practicing Sha-woman and an experienced non-fiction writer, she writes with clarity and authority. You can tell that she possesses a deep understanding of Shamanism because she can distill even the most esoteric practices into concepts that anyone can understand. Each chapter addresses a vital aspect of understanding Shamanism—the history, the practices, Shamanism and healing, and so forth. The most profound chapter is the final one—in which she guides the reader to cultivate their own healing power and insight into their individual spirits. I would recommend this book for literally anyone who is interested in healing and spirituality. Even if Shamanism isn't your calling, it's vital to understand how different cultures (especially indigenous communities) practice healing—since so much of our current understanding of personal and collective healing stems from Shamanism. Besides, it's a fun read and provides lots of interesting facts to share with friends and family." -Taz Tagore, *Beliefnet* September 2011 "Comprehensive and easy to follow." -Lynn Andrews, best-selling author of the *Medicine Woman* series and *Writing Spirit* "Although ancient, shamanism has never been more important than it is today. In addition to personal healing, it also holds the key to healing a planet distressed by human folly. *The Hollow Bone* is a magnificent and beautiful guide to this world of power that combines magic with the true science of nature and offers the hope of a better world for future generations." -John Perkins, author of *Shapeshifting* and the *New York Times* bestselling *Confessions of an Economic Hitman* "Colleen Deatsman is one of the successful pathfinders in the world of shamanism and speaks with a trustworthy voice. *The Hollow Bone*--an inspiring and practical guide--will take you, heart and soul, into the amazing world of the shaman." -Tom Cowan, author of *Fire in the Head: Shamanism and the Celtic Spirit* "A comprehensive and scholarly book on shamanism that will further serve to bring this ancient and powerful spiritual practice into the contemporary world at a time when it is most needed." -Dr. Steven Farmer, author of *Earth Magic* and *Animal Spirit Guides*

Colleen Deatsman is a counselor, social worker, Usui Reiki master, clinical hypnotherapist, and shamanic practitioner. She is the author of three previous books, including *Seeing in the Dark*. She lives in Mason, MI. Author website: www.colleendeatsman.com Sandra Ingerman is the author of *Soul Retrieval* and *Shamanic Journeying: A Beginner's Guide*.

"*The Hollow Bone*" is a 'must-read' for every shaman-in-training. It explains the practice, who

shamans are, how shamans become shamans, and how shamans can help the individual with psychological pain, suffering, and physical illnesses; as well as, how shamans walk in the world to help the collective whole of People and our planet. Whether you're interested in becoming a shaman or seeking a shaman for personal healing, this book will illuminate the path to a leading a happier, healthier, more spiritually connected way of life. Highly recommended!!

This was an interesting guide through an enthralling topic. Deatsman clearly knows her subject and provides the reader with a fairly broad overview of exactly what Shamanism is. A Zulu sangoma living in Swaziland even got a mention! There were temperate reminders of the seriousness of this path, and also practical wisdom and sensible directions to introduce lay people to the history, philosophy and tasks of Shamans in today's rapidly changing world where traditional ways are being lost and the material world is overpowering the spiritual. What I liked least about the book was that, however gently phrased, there was too much authoritative instruction and not enough sharing of the passion which Deatsman clearly feels for her topic. Deatsman's knowledge of shamanism is impressive and allows her to write about abstract concepts in a clear and concise manner. But, at times, I would have enjoyed less intellect and more emotional ecstasy in the way she describes the shamans journeying to the Other (non-ordinary) World. Overall, though, this is an excellent introduction into a fascinating and powerful path to healing for one Self or as a path to assist others in healing themselves. (This review is for the Kindle edition)

I want to recommend a book about shamanism I recently read, Colleen Deatsman's *The Hollow Bone - A Field Guide to Shamanism*. Academic surveys like Michael Harner's classic *Way of the Shaman* and Mircea Eliade's *Shamanism* are well worth reading, but Colleen's wonderful book is an accessible overview of shamanism written for the layperson. Already in love with my shamanic practice, *The Hollow Bone* reminded me of why I fell in love with it in the first place, and opened up some doorways to deepening my practice. Thank you, Colleen, for putting this well-researched work of love out into the world. I highly recommend it both for people who have never read anything about shamanism but would like to find out what it's about, as well as those of us who have been practicing for years. ([...])

This is another book by Colleen Deatsman that is definitely a keeper. Anyone who reads through this will have a much better understanding of what shamanism is. It is refreshing that the more remarkable and "out of the box" aspects of shamanism are not ignored or reconfigured into a more

plain vanilla New Age version. The examples of contemporary people practicing around the world is also very helpful and heartening. The photos and the many pieces of poetry from different sources kept me reading all the way through. There are extensive and readable explanations, and the book is also fun to read. Though this may be a field guide, it is also clearly infused with spirit throughout. Excellent work in a very easy to reference and read format.

has done a disservice to Colleen Deatsman, who wrote this book. Sandra Ingerman wrote a foreward for it, but this is not her book. That said, this is a wonderful introduction to shamanism, and the reader would probably want to read Sandra Ingerman's books on the same subject as well. But shamanism is a subjective art and every writer who takes it up as a subject has something to contribute. This is a warm, complete, and nicely written survey of the field. Highly recommended.

gift

This is a great book about shamanism. It actually turned me away from shamanism, and I am so glad that I left it. I had almost joined up to be a student under a shaman and I was going to spend a lot of money. This book was really realistic and it opened my eyes. I decided shamanism was not for me.

I have been called by the Spirits to become a Shaman, as this is my life's purpose. I thought I should buy a book covering the topic as I begin to learn about it. This is a wonderful book and it fills me with joy whenever I read it!

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