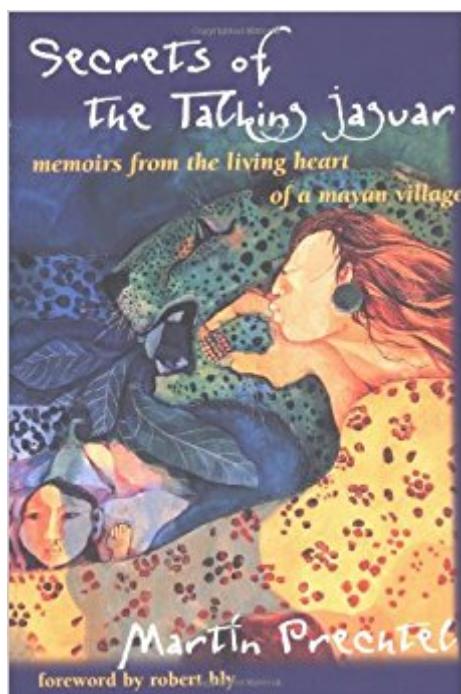


The book was found

Secrets Of The Talking Jaguar: Memoirs From The Living Heart Of A Mayan Village



Synopsis

Twenty-five years ago, a young musician and painter named Martin Prechtel wandered through the brilliant landscapes of Mexico and Guatemala. Arriving at Santiago Atitlan, a Tzutujil Mayan village on the breathtaking shores of Lake Atitlan, Prechtel met Nicolas Chiviliu Tacaxoy--perhaps the most famous shaman in Tzutujil history--who believed Prechtel was the new student he had asked the gods to provide. For the next thirteen years, Prechtel studied the ancient Tzutujil culture and became a village chief and a famous shaman in his own right. In *Secrets of the Talking Jaguar*, Prechtel brings to vivid life the sights, sounds, scents, and colors of Santiago Atitlan: its magical personalities, its beauty, its material poverty and spiritual richness, its eight-hundred-year-old rituals juxtaposed with quintessential small-town gossip. The story of his education is a tale filled with enchantment, danger, passion, and hope.

Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: TarcherPerigee; First Trade Paperback Edition edition (August 30, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0874779707

ISBN-13: 978-0874779707

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 71 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #69,777 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Social Scientists & Psychologists #32 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Other Religions, Practices & Sacred Texts > Tribal & Ethnic > Native American #43 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Shamanism

Customer Reviews

As late as the 1970s, among the Tzutujil Indians of Santiago Atitlan, in Guatemala, there was no word for "time," and the concept closest to the verb "to be" was the state of "belonging to"?in this case, to their village, which these descendants of ancient Mayans believed was the center of the universe. At the core of their philosophy was a rejection of progress?everything of importance had happened in the past. Their religion, which relied on communion with animal and plant spirits to understand daily existence, appealed deeply to Prechtel, a half Native American who grew up on a Pueblo reservation near Santa Fe: "The new aromas, the new sounds, things that I'd never seen

before, spun me into a trance, amplifying my already well-established erotic relationship with the landscape, my verdant quest to find a way to merge and mate with the spirit of the world." In his engaging first book, Prechtel describes his apprenticeship to Nicolas Chiviliu Tacaxoy, a shaman who taught him healing and divination skills, and his 13 years living as a Tzutujil. While his view seems at times romanticized, the picture he creates of idyllic Indian life?of the Indians' well-being, colorful rituals and rapport with nature?is so beautifully drawn that his delight in their culture becomes contagious, as does his grief when civil war creates havoc in their village. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

ÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã Å“Secrets of the Talking Jaguar: A Mayan ShamanÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„cs Journey to the Heart of the Indigenous Soul,ÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª• is Martin Prechtel's first book, released in 1998. It's a book about his journey from childhood in New Mexico as an outcast part-Native American to his true life and home in the then-Mayan city of Santiago Atitlan in Guatemala. A shaman named Chiv summoned him there, and became his teacher. It's a book about the contrast between the culture of the alien US and the indigenous culture of the Maya. ThatÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„cs a good starting point - the question of what it means not to be indigenous. To be indigenous means to truly have a home, to belong. But so then what are we in the US? What is most of the modern world?

WeÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„cre aliens. WeÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„cre homeless, lost, and unstable. Martin paints a beautiful picture of a culture that no longer exists. Military started coming in and breaking up the community in the ÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„80s. Although a high percentage of the individuals serviced, their village was a culture dependent on many roles. Even with less than half being killed, running a way, or converting, the culture wasnÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„ct able to survive. NOTABLE FRAGMENTS Political leaders had to be married. This gave leadership a 50:50 male:female split. This wasnÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„t done in the interest of these individual, but for the sake of the community. When leaders move up a rank, they throw a giant party and give away all of their wealth. DonÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„t trust a skinny shaman. Shamans are partially paid in food, and in a culture where food is scarce, fat is idolized. All Mayan houses are only one room. Their entrance is their mouth. The concept of a door is outside of their paradigm. We are each the House of the World, just as the outside is also the House of the World. Together these two form a mirror, for everything that can be found in the exterior can also be found in the interior. The concept of existence isnÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„t a part of Mayan culture. Everything ÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã Å“isÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª• only in itÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„s relationship to everything else. The names for relatives in TzÃfÃ¢Ã ª ¬Ã ª„utujil are subjective. There is no word for aunt - you describe the relationship to

the person we call aunt, depending on the specifics of where you are. You can't as the question, "who am I? There is no being, or doing - only relationship.

I give this book ten out of five stars. Its really that good. After reading it I shipped a copy of it to a friend. Excited to share the magic within and also to have someone with which to talk about it with. Prechtel drawls you in with the magic of his words and somehow manages to let it sink into your heart. I had some many moments of just pure wonder and my mind blown throughout reading this book. He somehow manages to explain the elegance of the Mayan way of life. How the sacred is merged into every aspect of their life but in a way a western reader can understand. His words are like seeds that he waters throughout the book till they are blooming inside you at the end. Magical and powerful book. You wont regret buying this one.

I can't say for certain whether everything presented in this book is completely factual. However, I can say that he presents an absolutely fascinating portrayal of the Mayans around Lake Atitlan - we have a friend who has spent time there, among them - and their traditional lifestyle.

This is the first of Martin Prechtel's books. Recommended by someone who has studied with the author, I found this book provocative and engaging. Prechtel is a shaman of great depth, sincerity and insight and he shares his spiritual journey with honesty and intensity. In no way can I do his work justice in a short paragraph. I was inspired, engaged and intrigued and wanted to continue on with the many books that followed. His teachings convey a deep respect for ones heritage and provides continuing inspiration to continue forward with meaning and commitment.

This is a fantastic journey. I wish I could have met Chiv. Martin is a great storyteller. He makes one feel his pain and his joy.

Good, thought-provoking reading.

Anyone with an interest in indigenous people as well as a lust for fascinating accounts of wayward travellers will find this impossible to put down. Humorous, yet poetic at times, the writer has a gift to share, and he does so with incredible dexterity. The insights into how the Maya lived within nature, their social heirarchy, inside jokes, love of life, and slow victimization by 20th (and 21st) century

power-mongers make this account a valuable resource for all human beings. Interestingly, the Mayan calendar, put forth centuries ago, ends within this decade, fodder for Armageddon-theorists in the last half century. Prechtel's book helps to explain how this happened before his eyes and the role he has come to play in keeping the soul of the Maya alive. This should be a must-read for anthropologists, linguists, spiritualists, environmentalists, economists, missionaries of all faiths, travellers, and policy makers. And yet with such a broad base, it remains a fascinating narrative as well. This was unquestionably one of the best books I have ever read.

A glimpse into a world we would have never seen were it not for the experiences and grand writing style of this wonderful and important man, Martin Prechtel. This book will always be in my library. His stories will always be in my heart.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Mayan Civilization: Explore the History and Mystery of the Ancient Mayan Ruins, Religion, Calendar, and More (Mayan Ruins, Mayan Religion, Ancient Civilization, Mayan Calendar) Secrets of the Talking Jaguar: Memoirs from the Living Heart of a Mayan Village Jaguar: One Man's Struggle To Establish The World's First Jaguar Preserve Jaguar D-Type 1954 onwards (all models): An insight into the design, engineering, maintenance and operation of Jaguar's Le Mans-winning sports car (Owners' Workshop Manual) Jaguar in the Body, Butterfly in the Heart: The Real-life Initiation of an Everyday Shaman Get Talking and Keep Talking French Total Audio Course: The essential short course for speaking and understanding with confidence (Teach Yourself) Keep Talking Italian Audio Course - Ten Days to Confidence: Advanced beginner's guide to speaking and understanding with confidence (Teach Yourself: Keep Talking) Get Talking and Keep Talking Japanese Total Audio Course: The essential short course for speaking and understanding with confidence (Teach Yourself Language) Now You're Talking Japanese In No Time: Book and Audio CD Package (Now You're Talking Series) Get Talking and Keep Talking Russian Total Audio Course: The essential short course for speaking and understanding with confidence (Teach Yourself) Now You're Talking Russian in No Time (Now You're Talking! CD Packages) Camino de Santiago (Village to Village Guide): Camino Frances: St Jean - Santiago - Finisterre Camino de Santiago (Village to Village Guide): Camino Frances 2017: St Jean - Santiago - Finisterre A Stranger in the Village (The Greek Village Series Book 12) AAA Yellowstone & Grand Teton National Parks, Wyoming: Including Canyon, Grant Village, Lake Village, Mammoth Hot Springs, Old Faithful, West Thumb, Jackson Street Map: AAA Special Area Series 2008 (307609581207, 2008 Printing) Streetwise Greenwich Village Map - Laminated City Street Map of Greenwich Village,

NY - Folding pocket size travel map A Village Lost and Found: An annotated tour of the 1850s series of stereo photographs "Scenes in Our Village" by T. R. Williams CIVIL WAR — Complete History of the War, Documents, Memoirs & Biographies of the Lead Commanders: Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant & William T. Sherman, Biographies ... Address, Presidential Orders & Actions Mosby's Memoirs: The memoirs of Colonel John Singleton Mosby You Wouldn't Want to Be a Mayan Soothsayer!: Fortunes You'd Rather Not Tell

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)