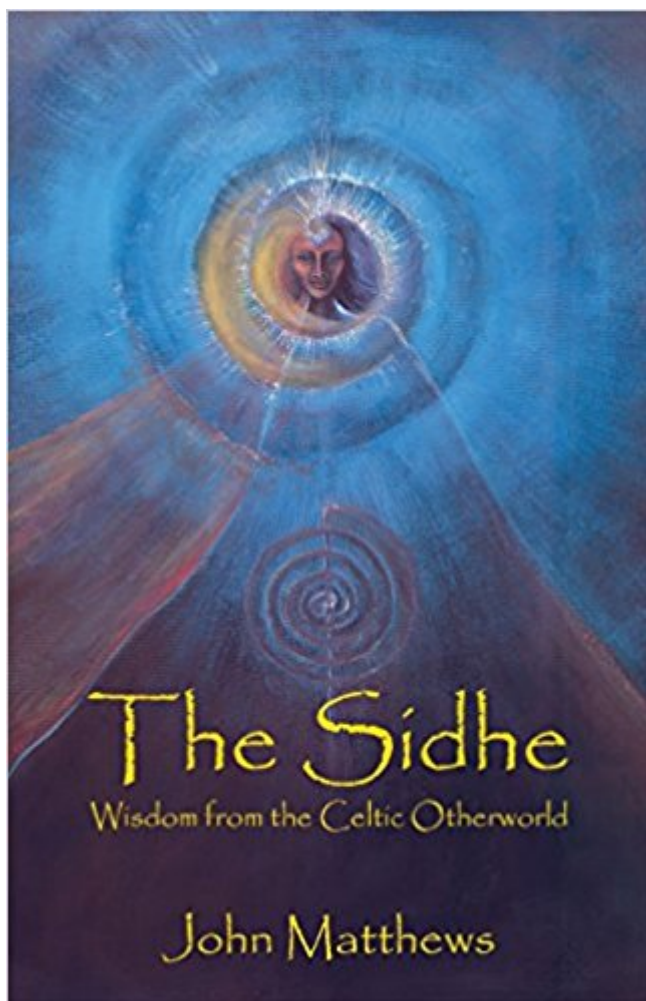


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The Sidhe: Wisdom From The Celtic Otherworld



Synopsis

This newest book by John traces his connection with a "Faery" or Sidhe being. It is full of wisdom and interesting detail about this "cousin" race to humanity. It includes six exercises and an illustration of a "Great Glyph" which acts as a tool of attunement with these graceful beings.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

John Matthews has written and compiled over sixty books on the Arthurian Legends, Wisdom and Grail Studies, as well as numerous short stories and a volume of poetry. He has devoted much of the past thirty years to the study of Arthurian Traditions and myth in general. His best known and most widely read works are *The Grail*, *Quest for Eternal Life*, *The Arthurian Tarot* (devised with his wife Caitlin) and *The Winter Solstice*, which won the Benjamin Franklin Award for 1999. He was recently guest editor of the journal *Arthuriana* and his book *Celtic Warrior Chiefs* was a New York Public Library recommended title for young people. John has been involved in a number of media projects, as both an advisor and contributor, including the big budget movie *King Arthur*, produced by Jerry Bruckheimer and directed by Antoine Fuqua, due for release in 2004, on which he acted as an historical advisor. Much in demand as a speaker both in Europe and the United States, he has taught at (among others) the Temenos Academy in London, St Hilda's College, Oxford, and at the New York Open Centre, and at the University of Seattle in Washington. He has also worked in collaboration with the Joseph Campbell Foundation, with whom he continues to retain contact. He is currently working on several new projects, including a study of Merlin. His eagerly awaited edition of Thomas Malory's masterpiece *Le Mort D'Arthur* appeared in

2002, and this year saw the publication of his history of wizards and a major divinatory pack, *“The Green Man Tree Oracle.”*

I am giving this book four stars because I believe the information from the Sidhe is accurate! I have been discovering this within my own personal spiritual journey, and this book just reaffirms my recent decision to commit to a path of Druidry. The real gem in this book are in the six 'teachings'- which will help anyone to FOCUS. The most difficult thing humans today have in comprehending this, is the reality that one cannot continue living a modern lifestyle and fully immerse and accept these teachings. Humans were not meant to live the way we are living, and while the Sidhe have 'hope' that humanity will change course- history has shown that humans will never VOLUNTARILY make changes or sacrifices until they are FORCED to do so! Whether by a major catastrophic event or whatever. While there are a few on this planet who are awakening to this reality, the majority still remain in control and dictate the direction of this planet. Yet even within those few, many cannot break free of the modern culture and lifestyle that binds them, nor are they willing to be vocal and accept themselves as being 'different' from the whole. While I am not a Christian, I will say that when Jesus said something to the likes of "go through the small gate, because the larger gate is wide and the path is easy, yet leads to destruction!" The small gate is not easy, it goes against the grain of 'society', yet leads to many riches beyond worldly comprehension. With that being said, it is crystal clear that this author concocted this story, and he even admits in the beginning that he put it in 'story format' for easier reading. WHY? Why not state the facts if these indeed were facts? A person is more likely to accept something as truth if stated directly instead of creating a mythological story around it. This isn't the ancient past where our culture revolves around myth and legend- we revolve around facts. While that may be part of our problem, in a way it makes sense- because why hide the truth in a story when you can just as surely tell the truth plainly? The first reason I believe this is because the events supposedly took place in 1998, yet he didn't publish this book for almost SIX years!! Why, supposedly he was 'afraid' (imagine that) of what other people would think. So you have this powerful message from an ancient people in hopes of helping save humanity- and the author is more worried about what other people will think. *sigh* Second, he says at the end that there has never been anything published about this site and that 'perhaps' one day he will go back to see if it actually exists or if he imagined it. Ok, now if this were you, wouldn't you- in the SIX YEARS you've been sitting on this story, be contacting your archeologist friend and asking him about it? Wouldn't you, BEFORE PUBLISHING- if you are so worried about what other people will think- take a trip back to make sure it exists. Even more, wouldn't you tell the TRUE location so that

your story can at least be verified by proving the site exists? Third, the author doesn't seem to be spending much time promoting these ideals and lessons. Instead he's spent his time crafting other books, conducting seminars, and doing other things that are totally in opposition to what the Sidhe taught. Truly, if you had this amazing, profound experience, would you not take it to heart? If not for yourself, then to help others- including the Sidhe?!? Fourth, his whole interaction with the Sidhe seemed disrespectful. I mean, if you had an ancient being taking time to visit YOU and share with you a message that could help save your species, would you not make interacting with this being your PRIORITY? Instead, he seems to be taking three of four days here, a couple of weeks there, without bothering to contact the Sidhe. Again, is this not indicative of the problem the Sidhe are talking about? That most humans, while hearing the message, will not listen and will not "GET IT". It also backs up my own belief that most humans will not make the necessary changes until they are FORCED to do so- and as history has shown- when that time arrives, it is always too late. I don't know where this author got his information from the Sidhe (it certainly was not connected to an archeological site), yet I DO believe in the message!! Even if I don't trust or believe the author's story, I DO believe the Sidhe! I think that is the most important thing to take away from this book. I have learned from experience that even the most profound truths can come through the most unenlightened sources. I also wanted to add that the 'Great Glyph' seems to resemble the Reiki power symbol almost exactly. It looks as if someone took the symbol, flipped it upside down, and clipped the 'tail' off of it. Something else to make you go hmmmmmm about this story.

There isn't much of a story here, it is really a discourse. The author, who doesn't particularly care for channelers, is channeling the Sidhe. Ironically, the people who should read this book probably won't, and the people who do read it are probably already aware of most of the concepts. The best I got from it is the Great Glyph, which I intend to paint and hang up. There are also some simple recommendations for connecting with the web of creation. Personally, I found Ted Andrews book *Animal Speak* to be much more informative and inspiring. I applaud the author, though, for publishing an important message to humanity. His heart is in the right place.

I am a practicing witch, so this book was very interesting and insightful. I believe that fairies of all shapes and sizes and functions exist. I also believe that they have removed themselves from this human world when we became too difficult/uppity/self-centered to deal with. Everything the Sidhe representative said about us is true. We think we are so superior to everything that we take and use and destroy simply because we can. We have upset the balance of this world and our place in it so

severely that we and this world may never recover from it. The Sidhe are more intelligent than we are, they know who they are and what their place in existence is and they are all but immortal. If there is such a thing as a warrior Elf, the Sidhe are it. And if they decide to come back into our world and hold us accountable, who will be wise enough to stand before them?? There is more to the redemption of this world than Christianity.

I appreciated John's courage in sharing the words of the Sidhe. It opened my eyes to an even deeper understanding that the youth of today needs help and spiritual guidance in order to save our planet from self destruction. The world is fading in its aliveness and this is effecting not just us but the people of the other world as well. My hope is that they do not give up on us and we do not give up ourselves. Thank you to John for all his work beyond the veils.

I just finished reading the Sidhe by John Matthews. It is a small book and one that was hard for me to put down, only at several instances, I was forced to set it aside so that I could absorb all that it contained. If you have read books by John Matthews, you would be aware of the reputation he has of that of scholar. One does not get any impression that John is anything less than a credible source for information about the Celtic People. In this book, John speaks of his fantastic encounters over a period of about one month with one who says he is of the Sidhe race of beings. He records the words of those encounters almost verbatim with only a small amount of commentary. This book contains teachings and information that I believe is vital for our continued spiritual connection to the Web of Life. It is simple and gives us six things we can actively do that will deepen our awareness and gently move us along our continued evolvement with Spirit. This is a very important work and one I will not ignore. I cannot wait to begin. Deanne Quarrie November 2009

This book is not only entertaining, it also offers much food-for-thought. My only complaint is that it ended. Highly recommended, especially for those who embrace the Celtic Otherworld in their belief system. This is also the book that inspired Emily Carding's Tarot of the Sidhe; it is a must-read for thorough immersion in that tarot deck.

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