



Soulcraft: Crossing into the Mysteries of Nature and Psyche

By Bill Plotkin

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Since 1980, depth psychologist Bill Plotkin has been guiding women and men into the wilderness—the redrock canyons and snow-crested mountains of the American West—but also into the wilds of the soul. He calls this work *soulcraft*.

There's a great longing in all people to uncover the secrets and mysteries of our individual lives, to find the unique gift we were born to bring to our communities, and to experience our full membership in the more-than-human world. This journey to soul is a descent into layers of the self much deeper than personality, a journey meant for each one of us, not just for the heroes and heroines of mythology.

A modern handbook for the journey, *Soulcraft* is not an imitation of indigenous ways, but a contemporary nature-based approach born from wilderness experience, the traditions of Western culture, and the cross-cultural heritage of all humanity. Filled with stories, poems, and guidelines, *Soulcraft* introduces over 40 practices that facilitate the descent to soul, including dreamwork, wilderness vision fasts, talking across the species boundaries, council, self-designed ceremony, nature-based shadow work, and the arts of romance, being lost, and storytelling.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Here is an abundantly wise and carefully crafted survival guide for the wild soul currently dozing (or dying) at the heart of your civilized life. Plotkin has wandered again and again into the nourishing darkness, and has returned with this earthly bundle of insights and images — talismanic tools for awakening to the outrageous depths both within us and all around us. He has bound them into a book that is immensely practical, alive with ritual intelligence, thick with useful tools from a host of courageous comrades."

— **David Abram**, author of *The Spell of the Sensuous*

"As we enter a future where humans and the natural world are more intimate with each other, we will surely be powerfully influenced by this new guide into the mysteries of nature and psyche. In *Soulcraft*, Bill Plotkin gives us an authentic masterwork. In the substance of what he has written, in the clarity of his presentation, and in the historical urgency of the subject, he has guided us far into the new world that is opening up before us. We will not soon again receive a work of this significance."

— from the foreword by **Thomas Berry**, author of *The Dream of the Earth* and *The Great Work*

"The fundamental worldview of industrial society is that Earth is like a gravel pit or a lumberyard — just a resource for human use. We live disconnected from the evolving earth community, but our deepest allurements are a rich, intimate participation in nature and the ongoing adventure of the Universe. In this stunningly original and inspiring guide book, Bill Plotkin shows us how to reconnect with the sacred powers of life, of nature, of soul, and the ways that each one of us can reinvent ourselves and discover our unique way to flower forth."

— **Brian Swimme**, cosmologist and author of *The Hidden Heart of the Cosmos*, *The Universe is a Green Dragon*, and coauthor with Thomas Berry of *The Universe Story*

About the Author

Bill Plotkin, PhD, founder of Animas Valley Institute, describes himself as a “psychologist gone wild.” A cultural visionary, author, and guide to the entwined mysteries of wilderness and psyche, he’s been blazing new trails for decades. His ecocentric re-visioning of psychology invites us into a conscious and embodied relationship with soul and with the more-than-human world. His other books are *Wild Mind* and *Nature and the Human Soul*. He lives in southwestern Colorado.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Marjorie Brown:

Information is provisions for those to get better life, information currently can get by anyone in everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even a huge concern. What people must be consider any time those information which is inside former life are challenging be find than now is taking seriously which one works to believe or which one the particular resource are convinced. If you find the unstable resource then you understand it as your main information you will have huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen in you if you take *Soulcraft: Crossing into the Mysteries of Nature and Psyche*

as your daily resource information.

James Peters:

Reading can called head hangout, why? Because while you are reading a book mainly book entitled Soulcraft: Crossing into the Mysteries of Nature and Psyche your mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every single aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely will become your mind friends. Imaging every word written in a publication then become one form conclusion and explanation which maybe you never get before. The Soulcraft: Crossing into the Mysteries of Nature and Psyche giving you yet another experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful facts for your better life in this particular era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished reading it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary investing spare time activity?

Carolyn Foley:

Soulcraft: Crossing into the Mysteries of Nature and Psyche can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort to get every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing Soulcraft: Crossing into the Mysteries of Nature and Psyche however doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information may drawn you into new stage of crucial contemplating.

Wendy Ray:

In this particular era which is the greater person or who has ability to do something more are more special than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple method to have that. What you are related is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to have a look at some books. One of the books in the top list in your reading list is definitely Soulcraft: Crossing into the Mysteries of Nature and Psyche. This book that is certainly qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in growing to be precious person. By looking way up and review this book you can get many advantages.

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