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# The Fifth Sacred Thing Maya Greenwood 1 Starhawk

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*The Fifth Sacred Thing* Random House Trade Paperbacks

In *The Fifth Sacred Thing*, readers fell in love with Maya Greenwood, the 98-year-old writer who led Northern California's successful 21st century rebellion against a racist, totalitarian regime of the South. Walking to Mercury takes readers back to the 20th century and powerfully dramatizes the forces that shaped this extraordinary woman. The book opens and closes with the middle-aged Maya struggling with a profound personal and spiritual crisis. The culminating factor has been her mother's death, and now Maya embarks on a trek in the Himalayas, intending to sprinkle her mother's ashes at the base of Mt. Everest and finally lay to rest her tumultuous past. At rest stops in tiny Tibetan villages, she reads diary pages her lover Johanna has tucked into her bag—the diary

Johanna kept throughout their shared youth during the Vietnam era. In vivid flashbacks to those radical days, we accompany the young Maya as she awakens to the summer of love, joins the anti-war movement, and enters into a relationship with the abusive, alcoholic Rio. She finally gathers the strength to break free and seek her own true path, which takes her from the streets of Manhattan to the mountains of Mexico. Eventually she emerges, stronger and wiser, infused with the wisdom of the earth and the spirit of the goddess. Traveling through the landscape of memories helps Maya reclaim her past and foreshadows the miraculous events readers of *The Fifth Sacred Thing* know her to be capable of in the future.

*The Fifth Beginning* Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR) The bestselling author uses Wiccan sacred texts to show how we can have a more intimate connection with our surroundings. From time immemorial,

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artists and poets, prophets, and shamans have drawn strength and inspiration from walking the earth. In *The Earth Path*, bestselling author Starhawk takes the reader on a journey into the heart of the natural world, showing how we can have a more intimate connection with the world that surrounds us. Institutionalized religions have sacred texts—messages written in holy books that are the inspiration for their beliefs and rituals. But the sacred texts for Wicca, like other ancient native or indigenous traditions, are written in nature—in the magic circle of the elements: air, fire, water, and earth. With *The Earth Path*, Starhawk, an activist, ecofeminist, and leader in the women’s spirituality movement, places you in the center of that magical circle. As you become attuned to the rhythms of the earth, your thinking will shift from focusing on isolated objects to marveling at the multitude of interconnecting patterns and relationships in nature. These patterns and connections can hold the key to your own spiritual renewal and restore your sense of responsibility for preserving this world that nurtures

and sustains us. Filled with awareness exercises, inspiring meditations, and magical rituals, *The Earth Path* not only teaches the reader to respect the ecology of our natural world, but shows how to spiritually connect with and channel the powers inherent in nature. Praise for *The Earth Path* “ Starhawk presents an array of exercises and practices for sharpening observation and listening skills. She engages readers’ spirits and minds through her illustrative storytelling, offering ways to communicate more fully with the world and suggesting ways to act. ” —Publishers Weekly “ Lucid, appealing . . . a broad philosophy of harmony with nature, of human concord, sexual liberation, creativity, and healthy pleasure, as expressed and celebrated in a freewheeling worship of the universe. ” —Kirkus Reviews  
Circle Round Shambhala Publications  
Reprint of the original, first published in 1915.  
City of Refuge University of Arizona

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## Press

In this inspiring, soul-stirring memoir, Lawrence E. Carter Sr., founding dean of the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel, shares his remarkable quest to experience King's "beloved community" and his surprising discovery in mid-life that King's dream was being realized by the Japanese Buddhist philosopher and tireless peace worker Daisaku Ikeda. Coming of age on the cusp of the American Civil Rights Movement, Carter was personally mentored by Martin Luther King Jr. and followed in his footsteps, first to get an advanced degree in theology at Boston University and then to teach and train a new generation of activists and ministers at King's alma mater, Morehouse College. Over the years, however, Carter was disheartened to watch the radical cosmic vision at the

heart of King's message gradually diluted and marginalized. He found himself in near despair—until his remarkable encounter with the lay Buddhist association Soka Gakkai International and a life-changing meeting with Ikeda, its president. Carter knew that King had been inspired by Gandhi, a Hindu, and now Ikeda, a Buddhist, was showing him how King's message of justice, equality, and the fundamental dignity of life could be carried to millions of people around the world. What ensued was not a conversion but a conversation—about the essential role of interfaith dialogue, the primacy of education, and the value of a living faith to create a human revolution and realize at last Martin Luther King's truest dream of a global world house. In these dark and frustrating times, the powerful dialogue between Carter and Ikeda gives hope and

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guidance to a new generation of reformers, the self, the quest for enlightenment, and activists, and visionaries.

The Doctrine of Maya in the Philosophy of the Vedanta Beacon Press (MA)

In "The Book of Lies," Aleister Crowley explores the intricate relationship between truth and illusion, presenting a collection of 91 short essays and poetic verses that delve into themes of mysticism, philosophy, and personal liberation. Written in a distinctive and often paradoxical literary style, the text reflects Crowley's mastery of both prose and poetry, employing a fragmented narrative that challenges conventional understanding. Each chapter serves as a thought-provoking exploration of esoteric concepts, such as the nature of

the self, the quest for enlightenment, and the significance of chaos within order—elements that resonate deeply within the context of early 20th-century occultism and modernist literature. Aleister Crowley, a complex and controversial figure known for his role in the development of modern occult practices, drew inspiration from various philosophical traditions, including Eastern mysticism and Western esotericism. His formative experiences with Thelema, a spiritual philosophy he founded, permeate this work, reflecting his belief in the individual's right to seek personal truth. Crowley's charismatic persona and radical ideas often placed him at the center of public scrutiny,

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further enriching the context in which this book was conceived. "The Book of Lies" is an essential read for anyone interested in the intersections of spirituality, literature, and the human psyche. Its provocative ideas challenge readers to confront their perceptions of reality, making it a pivotal addition to the libraries of scholars, practitioners, and inquisitive minds alike.

*Freedom After the Sharks* HarperTeen

Each of us is, to some extent or other, a reflection of the experiences of our lives. However, whether and how we succeed is determined at least in part by how we cope with those experiences and what we learn from them. This is the story of a man who, despite a difficult family life and professional setbacks, developed the determination, drive

and skills to create a successful business and happy life. Geoff's skills and self-motivation gave him the drive, determination and tenacity to continue a journey through hardship to reach self-fulfillment and, ultimately, success. His book describes the life journey of a young man's heart and his desire to turn his dreams and vision into a business success. *Freedom After The Sharks* shows how, even in a declining economy, a business can survive and even succeed. It covers some real-life experiences and offers some suggestions for dealing with problems and issues. It provides a guide to finding your way in the business world. The book is suitable for entrepreneurs who might not be sure of the path to take or who want to benefit from other people's mistakes and failures. Other audiences include middle management or junior executives who are looking for a fascinating life story of courage, drive and inspiration, as well as graduates and

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college students, who will find information that will help prepare them for their careers.

*Popol Vuh* DigiCat

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*Walking to Mercury* BenBella Books

After abada and the Bentoura figures, Mohamed Bentoura, reveals the hidden face of the Soso empire and the mysteries

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of LAGA (the black school). Bentoura, a sociologist researcher, is inspired daily by a sentence used in the Soso community, the twelve words (Woyen Fou Noun Firin). A search or confront the esoteric traditions and the formidable intelligence of the sema, in search of the secret best kept in an African society.

### The Collapse of Complex Societies

#### Matador

In this thoughtful and highly readable book, Noël Sturgeon illustrates the myriad and insidious ways in which American popular culture depicts social inequities as “natural” and how our images of “nature” interfere with creating solutions to environmental problems that are just and fair for all.

Why is it, she wonders, that environmentalist messages in popular culture so often “naturalize” themes of heroic male violence, suburban nuclear family structures, and U.S. dominance in the world? And what do these patterns of thought mean for how we envision environmental solutions, like “green” businesses, recycling programs, and the protection of threatened species? Although there are other books that examine questions of culture and environment, this is the first book to employ a global feminist environmental justice analysis to focus on how racial inequality, gendered patterns of work, and heteronormative ideas about the family relate to environmental questions.



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Beginning in the late 1980s and moving to the present day, Sturgeon unpacks a variety of cultural tropes, including ideas about Mother Nature, the purity of the natural, and the allegedly close relationships of indigenous people with the natural world. She investigates the persistence of the “myth of the frontier” and its extension to the frontier of space exploration. She ponders the popularity (and occasional controversy) of penguins (and penguin family values) and questions assumptions about human warfare as “natural.” The book is intended to provoke debates—among college students and graduate students, among their professors, among environmental activists, and among all

citizens who are concerned with issues of environmental quality and social equality.

Dreaming the Dark Harper Collins

As Cooper and her friends pursue their study of Wicca, Cooper begins to have nightmares about a local girl who has disappeared, and if Cooper's visions are true, was kidnapped and murdered, so Cooper must find the killer.

*Popol Vuh* Cambridge University Press

The magical saga of the women behind King Arthur's throne. “A monumental reimagining of the Arthurian legends . . . reading it is a deeply moving and at times uncanny experience. . . . An impressive achievement.”—The New York Times Book Review

In Marion Zimmer Bradley's masterpiece, we see the tumult and adventures of Camelot's court through the eyes of the women who bolstered the king's rise and schemed for his fall. From their

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childhoods through the ultimate fulfillment of their destinies, we follow these women and the diverse cast of characters that surrounds them as the great Arthurian epic unfolds stunningly before us. As Morgaine and Gwenhwyfar struggle for control over the fate of Arthur's kingdom, as the Knights of the Round Table take on their infamous quest, as Merlin and Viviane wield their magics for the future of Old Britain, the Isle of Avalon slips further into the impenetrable mists of memory, until the fissure between old and new worlds' and old and new religions' claims its most famous victim.

**The Spiral Dance** University of California Press

"I have seen yesterday. I know tomorrow." This inscription in Tutankhamun's tomb summarizes *The Fifth Beginning*. Here, archaeologist Robert L. Kelly explains how the study of our cultural past can predict

the future of humanity. In an eminently readable style, Kelly identifies four key pivot points in the six-million-year history of human development: the emergence of technology, culture, agriculture, and the state. In each example, the author examines the long-term processes that resulted in a definitive, no-turning-back change for the organization of society. Kelly then looks ahead, giving us evidence for what he calls a fifth beginning, one that started about AD 1500. Some might call it "globalization," but the author places it in its larger context: a five-thousand-year arms race, capitalism's global reach, and the cultural effects of a worldwide communication network. Kelly predicts that the emergent phenomena of this fifth beginning will include the end of war as a

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viable way to resolve disputes, the end of capitalism as we know it, the widespread shift toward world citizenship, and the rise of forms of cooperation that will end the near-sacred status of nation-states. It's the end of life as we have known it. However, the author is cautiously optimistic: he dwells not on the coming chaos, but on humanity's great potential.

Early American Civilizations Salah Gherbi

Here is a book as joyous and painful, as mysterious and memorable, as childhood itself. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* captures the longing of lonely children, the brute insult of bigotry, and the wonder of words that can make the world right. Maya Angelou's debut memoir is a modern American classic beloved worldwide. Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern

town, Maya and her brother, Bailey, endure the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local "powhitetrash." At eight years old and back at her mother's side in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a man many times her age—and has to live with the consequences for a lifetime. Years later, in San Francisco, Maya learns that love for herself, the kindness of others, her own strong spirit, and the ideas of great authors ("I met and fell in love with William Shakespeare") will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned. Poetic and powerful, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* will touch hearts and change minds for as long as people read. "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings liberates the reader into life simply because Maya Angelou confronts her own life with such a moving wonder, such a luminous dignity."—James Baldwin From the Paperback edition.

*Soso Antiquity Culture and Civilization*  
Bantam

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**NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER •**

One juror changed the verdict. What if she was wrong? From the Academy Award–winning screenwriter of *The Imitation Game* and bestselling author of *The Last Days of Night*. . . . An ID Book Club Selection • In development as a limited series starring and executive produced by Amy Adams “Exhilarating . . . a fiendishly slippery game of cat-and-mouse suspense and a provocative, urgent inquiry into American justice (and injustice) in the twenty-first century.”—A. J. Finn, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Woman in the Window* It’s the most sensational case of the decade. Fifteen-year-old Jessica Silver, heiress to a billion-dollar real estate

fortune, vanishes on her way home from school, and her teacher, Bobby Nock, a twenty-five-year-old African American man, is the prime suspect. The subsequent trial taps straight into America’s most pressing preoccupations: race, class, sex, law enforcement, and the lurid sins of the rich and famous. It’s an open-and-shut case for the prosecution, and a quick conviction seems all but guaranteed—until Maya Seale, a young woman on the jury, convinced of Nock’s innocence, persuades the rest of the jurors to return the verdict of not guilty, a controversial decision that will change all their lives forever. Flash forward ten years. A true-crime docuseries

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reassembles the jury, with particular focus on Maya, now a defense attorney herself. When one of the jurors is found dead in Maya's hotel room, all evidence points to her as the killer. Now, she must prove her own innocence—by getting to the bottom of a case that is far from closed. As the present-day murder investigation entwines with the story of what really happened during their deliberation, told by each of the jurors in turn, the secrets they have all been keeping threaten to come out—with drastic consequences for all involved.

A Baptist Preacher's Buddhist Teacher

Bantam

The numerical universe revealed from Glastonbury, deciphered from crop circles, ancient measures, astronomy, mathematics

and physics, bringing a new understanding of the fifth element or the ether. This book presents a unified theory of science, metaphysics, the philosophy of divine nature and geometry, encoding harmonic numbers from the Bible, folklore and ancient scriptures, revealing a unique template uniting microcosm with macrocosm.

**The Etheric Particle 216** Harper Collins

Explores the growth, suppression, and modern reemergence of witchcraft as a religion, demystifying a misunderstood and maligned tradition and pointing out its relationship to feminism.

*Truth or Dare* Bantam

Amidst the ruins of the violent, desperate world of 2048 stands a green and flourishing city where four things are sacred—Air, Fire, Water, and Earth. When the ruthless Stewards of the Southlands invade, the people of Califia defeat

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them using nonviolence and magic. But they'll be back, unless the northerners can liberate the Southlands first..

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

Middleway Press

The Precolumbian ballgame, played on a masonry court, has long intrigued scholars because of the magnificence of its archaeological remains. From its lowland Maya origins it spread throughout the Aztec empire, where the game was so popular that sixteen thousand rubber balls were imported annually into Tenochtitlan. It endured for two thousand years, spreading as far as to what is now southern Arizona. This new collection of essays brings together research from field

archaeology, mythology, and Maya hieroglyphic studies to illuminate this important yet puzzling aspect of Native American culture. The authors demonstrate that the game was more than a spectator sport; serving social, political, mythological, and cosmological functions, it celebrated both fertility and the afterlife, war and peace, and became an evolving institution functioning in part to resolve conflict within and between groups. The contributors provide complete coverage of the archaeological, sociopolitical, iconographic, and ideological aspects of the game, and offer new information on the distribution of ballcourts, new interpretations of mural art, and newly

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perceived relations of the game with material in the Popol Vuh. With its scholarly attention to a subject that will fascinate even general readers, *The Mesoamerican Ballgame* is a major contribution to the study of the mental life and outlook of New World peoples.

**The Mists of Avalon** University of Arizona Press

An examination of the nature of power that offers creative alternatives for positive change in our personal lives, our communities, and our world.

The Once and Future Goddess Harper San Francisco

The recent interpretation of Maya hieroglyphs has given us the first written history of the New World as it existed before the European invasion. In this book,

two of the first central figures in the massive effort to decode the glyphs, Linda Schele and David Freidel, make this history available in all its detail. *A Forest of Kings* is the story of Maya kingship, from the beginning of its institution and the first great pyramid builders two thousand years ago to the decline of Maya civilization and its destruction by the Spanish. Here the great historic rulers of pre-Columbian civilization come to life again with the decipherment of their writing. At its height, Maya civilization flourished under great kings like Shield-Jaguar, who ruled for more than sixty years, expanding his kingdom and building some of the most impressive works of architecture in the ancient world. Long placed on a mist-shrouded pedestal as austere, peaceful stargazers, the Maya

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elites are now known to have been the rulers of populous, aggressive city-states. Hailed as "a Rosetta stone of Maya civilization" (Brian M. Fagan, author of *People of the Earth*), *A Forest of Kings* is "a must for interested readers," says Evon Vogt, professor of anthropology at Harvard University.