

1Walking An Ancient Path: Rebirthing Goddess on Planet Earth
A book written by Karen Tate

Reviewed by Sandra Pope

Some books open our minds. Others open our hearts. Still others open our spiritual intuition. *Walking an Ancient Path* by author and High Priestess Karen Tate does all three as we companion her on her lifelong journey to re-discover and re-birth the healing presence of the Sacred Feminine on the earth.

Karen's journey spirals out into the world of form and place and history, and then back into the inner sanctuaries of heart and mystery and spirit. Reading her story is like walking a labyrinth or entering a crop circle: her book becomes a matrix through which the Sacred Feminine flows.

Karen's story really begins 30,000 years before she is born, in the time when the Great Mother was worshipped as Goddess – creatrix of that all is, and called by her many names, including Isis. The story continues when Karen, born in New Orleans, is tutored, unbeknownst to her, by the hidden presence of the Sacred Feminine.

Years later after she leaves her New Orleans home, books open Karen's mind to the Goddess. Then Karen senses and unveils memories of the Goddess Isis from her early childhood years.

She finds Isis in the warmth and affection of the nuns who taught her. She finds Isis in the Catholic holidays she celebrated like the Epiphany, which kicks off Mardi Gras and has its roots in the rituals of the priests of Isis.

She discovers Isis hidden beneath the names and visages of the Virgin Mary and Mary Magdalene. She uncovers her in the celebration of Mardi Gras, which has its spiritual ancestry in a festival that asks Isis for her blessings on those who must journey upon the sea. She experiences Isis as the embodiment of life's earthly pleasures in the "Big Easy attitude" of New Orleans and in her early love of ancient places.

Karen's physical journey takes her to California, and her love of ancient landscapes and archaeology guides her to combine her knowledge as a travel

agent with her love of the Sacred Feminine. She begins to lead pilgrimages to other lands where remnants of the temples to the Goddess remain.

Her lovely descriptions of these holy places and her inner expectations that she will encounter the presence of the goddess create suspense for the reader, and the Sacred Feminine delivers on those expectations!

Karen brings her love of Isis as the Sacred Feminine home with her. For decades, she works with earth, air, fire, and water and creates rituals, builds “*iseums*” (temples), and inspires others awaken to the Goddess and incorporate her life-saving and life-giving qualities – qualities like partnership instead of domination, wisdom to temper knowledge, intuition to balance logic, benevolence instead of violence, hope instead of fear, abundance instead of scarcity, transformation instead of destruction, and love instead of anger.

Karen’s mission to bring the Goddess back into daily life is urgent, for she knows that the return of the Sacred Feminine will rebalance a world that, under the rule of the masculine alone, is no longer sacred and about to destroy itself.

As we travel on this journey with Karen, certainly we learn and experience and are inspired by the ways she brings Goddess back, and that is helpful. But through the temporary temple that this subtly powerful book is, we can also experience the presence of Sacred Feminine herself, and *Her* mission can become our mission, too. That’s what makes ***Walking an Ancient Path*** so compelling.

Sandra Pope, author, *Growing Up Without the Goddess: A Journey through Sexual Abuse to the Sacred Embrace of Mary Magdalene*.

<http://www.GrowingUpWithoutTheGoddess.com>

