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Shakers Of St. Vincent (Profiles In Healing Series)



Synopsis

A relatively unknown shamanic culture, the Shakers of the Caribbean island of St. Vincent, is illustrated through personal profiles, stories, and color photographs. A unique blend of West African spirituality and Protestant Christianity, this culture has a strong tradition of seeking personal instruction and spiritual training that is brought forth through a ritual called "mourning." The details of this ritual are examined in this book, along with personal testimonies of visionary journeys. Accompanied by an audio CD of their ecstatic gatherings and healing encounters, this book is a vibrant expression of spiritual healing and is a unique contribution to ethnographic literature.

Book Information

Series: Profiles in Healing series (Book 7)

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Customer Reviews

The newest entry in the "Profiles of Healing" series, this fascinating volume casts light on a very little-known sect on a small island in the Caribbean, the St. Vincent Shakers, or "Spiritual Baptists." This remarkable cult, rooted as deeply in African spirituality as in Christian doctrine, seeks ecstatic experience and visionary journeys into the spirit world through two principal rituals: baptism, which follows a spiritual sign, and "mourning" (shedding of one's worldly life), which brings about healing and new mission through a vision quest. This outstanding book, which includes a CD (not heard by the reviewer), gathers many photographs of the Shakers, testimonies, narratives, and prayers. For most collections. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

• Draws the reader in through an audiovisual experience of their spiritual healing process. •
• ForeWord magazine • The time is ripe for this series . . . soul-stirring quotations, personal narratives . . . luxurious photographs, and compact discs of prayers, sacred songs, ceremonies, and teachings. •
• Spirituality & Health magazine • Wisdom and practices to help restore the world's spiritual health. •
• Black Issues Book Review • Each book stands alone, but [the series] provides a whole larger than the sum of the parts . . . Breathtaking. •
• Milton Erickson Foundation Newsletter

This beautifully researched, written, and illustrated book with its accompanying CD is a wonderful gift for anyone interested in the African Diasporic Religions! The author via participant observation methodology and individual case studies (personal accounts) truly does an amazing job on outlining and further defining the concepts, beliefs, and practices of this often overlooked religious tradition! The pictures and writing are simply amazing.... This book also contains a beautifully well done Compact Disk that brings you right into the milieu of the tradition and culture of the Shakers. Highly recommended for anyone interested in comparative religion, caribbean studies, or ATR's!

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