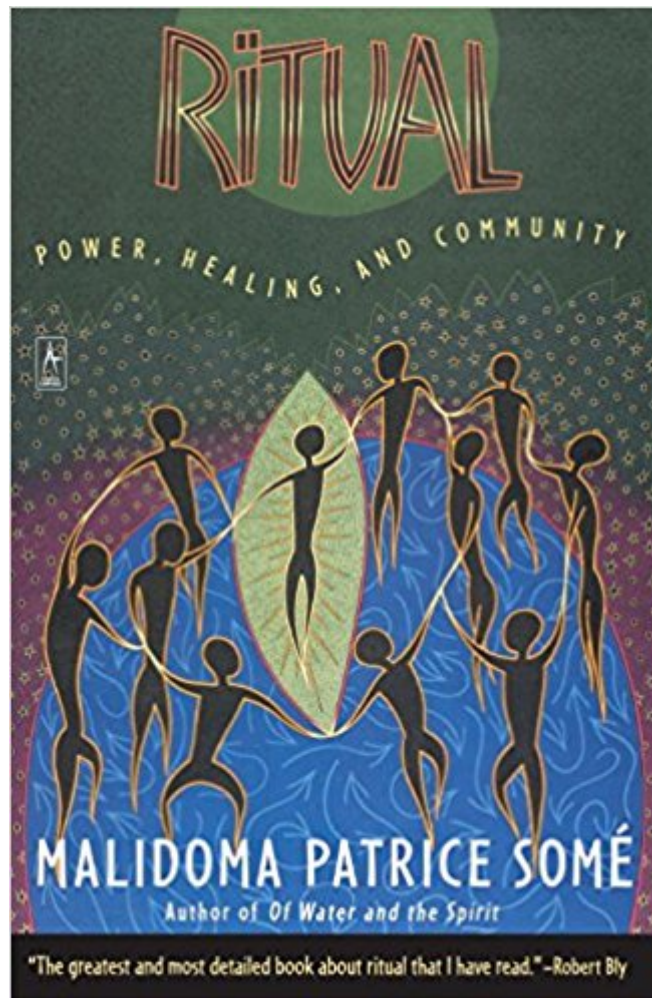




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# Ritual: Power, Healing And Community (Compass)



## Synopsis

The stories within these books have the poignancy of new discoveries as well as the unworn imagination of the ancestors. The commentary has the sharp edge of modern thought and the intricacy which results from the intellect being woven through the ritual complexities of tribal life. The purpose of constructing thresholds that bring this world together is to find the powers that can heal the rends in tribal as well as modern communities. --Michael Meade, from the Introduction

Versed in the languages of psychology, comparative literature, as well as ancient mythology, healing, and divination, Malidoma Patrice Some bridges paths between the ancient tribal world of the West African Dagara culture and modern Western society. Ritual is written with wild imagination, careful critical reflection, and intuitive insights that will force the reader to encounter the world anew.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Some is the ideal author for this book, which presents traditional beliefs about spirit possession and the need for ritual. He grew up in a village in West Africa and holds advanced degrees from the Sorbonne and Brandeis University, and he is also a Dagara medicine man and diviner. Some presents his own reactions to Western culture's enslavement to machine technology, which, he states, "is the spirit of death made to look like life." He concentrates on the need for grief ritual and ways of working with emotion in Western culture. Recommended for academic and large public libraries. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Malidoma Patrice Somfè, born in Upper Volta (now Burkina Faso) West Africa, is initiated in the ancestral traditions of his tribe, and is a medicine man and diviner in the Dagra culture. He holds three master's degrees and two doctorates from Sorbonne and Brandeis University, and has taught at the University of Michigan. He currently devotes himself to speaking and, with his wife, Sobonfu, conducting intensive workshops throughout the United States.

I stumbled into this author and thus this book from an article I read entitled, "What a Shaman Sees in a Mental Hospital"... Excellent read, by the way. As a student and practitioner of shamanic energy medicine, I am enthralled with the simple wisdom of Somfè's lineage and tradition and I love the many parallels to other traditions and modalities. His writing style is quite eloquent and yet easy to follow; an excellent story teller. If you're on a seeking path or enjoy learning about other cultures and communities, I highly recommend.

One of the best books that I have ever read! Malidome is someone who's spiritual knowledge hits the core of the human experience. On top of that, his brave and magical story shines much light on the aspects of the soul that are not being tended to in our fast paced, material-driven societies (especially in the West). I respect this man very much and hope to meet him one day.

I read this as part of a graduate degree in ecopsychology, and I loved it. If you enjoy the mystical, then you'll love this. I found so much truth and wisdom in the story, but many people will see it as just a fairy tale. That's okay too, but I recommend reading it and finding out your own impressions. The author travels the world now and is highly influential in the Shamanic community. It's really a great read and story of personal discovery.

This is an excellent book dealing with the roles of individuals, their families ( of blood or choice), and communities, and how each contributes to the health and growth of the whole. It explores how ritual and spirit impacts each individual, family/group and their communities.

Very good book on ritual and its importance to our everyday lives.

Excellent! Very informative and insightful.

An Amazing reminder of who we truly are and how we should conduct our selves in honor of our ancestors and those to follow us. Stumbling upon this book was no accident!

Interested in connecting with the Spirits of the seen and unseen? Are you curious about the world around you and the balance of Nature within? Malidoma Patrice Some' inspired myself into the aspects of Nature and Elemental Spirits, in relation not only to what is "seen," but more importantly the ability to connect with the "unseen." A must read for any Natural Born Healer, or anyone curious about "Shamanism"

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