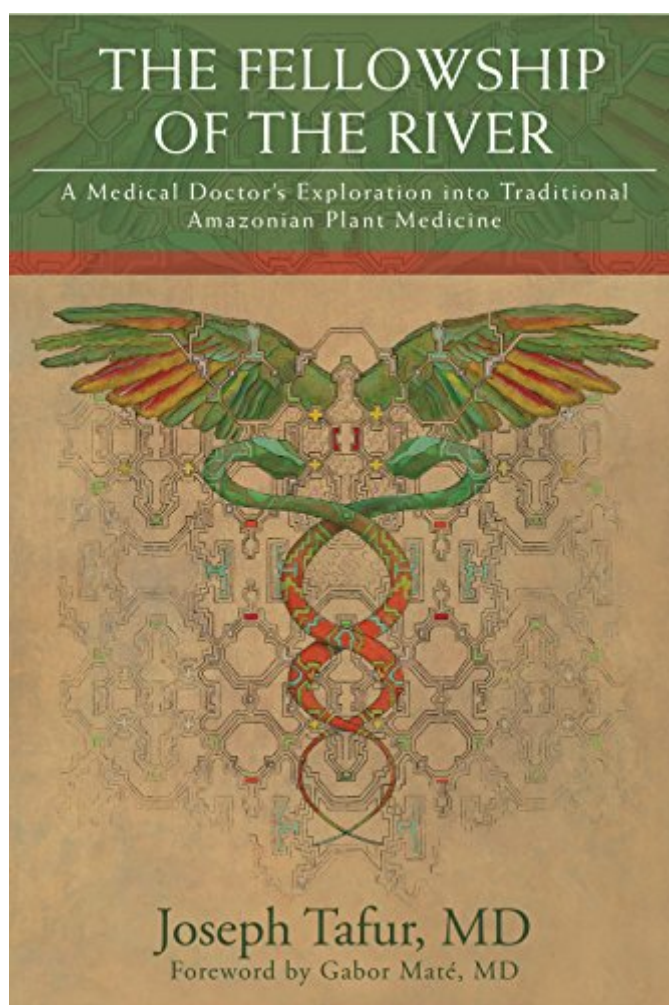


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The Fellowship Of The River: A Medical Doctor's Exploration Into Traditional Iau Plant Medicine



Synopsis

“This is the medicine of the future, the big answer to what ails us in the West. For millennia the doctor and the medicine man were one and the same person. Dr. Tafur takes us into the heart of the and shows us how spirit can heal the body, how love can repair the soul, and how awakening to our higher purpose and mission in life can open the doors to health and long life.

Brilliant!—Alberto Villoldo, PhD, bestselling author of *Shaman, Healer, Sage and One Spirit Medicine*—“Dr. Tafur’s timely book takes us on an enchanted adventure through the emerging world of ian shamanism. All along the way, he engages the reader with personal stories that illuminate his exciting and evolving philosophy of medicine and healing.”—Andrew Weil, MD, bestselling author of *Spontaneous Healing* and *8 Weeks to Optimum Health*“Much has been written in recent years about ayahuasca, the ian brew that evokes visions and insights. Less has been written about its healing potentials, but Joe Tafur, M.D., has filled the void with his remarkable book. Dr. Tafur provides an authoritative explanation for ayahuasca’s cures by drawing on data from neuroscience, psychology, and what is known about mind/body interactions. He also candidly points out the brew’s dangers and limitations, noting that ayahuasca is no panacea. The importance of this book cannot be underestimated; the suggestions given for medicine, psychotherapy, and spiritual awakening could transform institutions and societies as well as individuals and their families.”Stanley Krippner, Ph.D. Professor of Psychology, Saybrook University. Co-author *Demystifying Shamans And Their World*Western medicine has not been particularly successful at getting people relief from conditions like depression, chronic pain, migraine headaches, addiction, and PTSD. Dr. Tafur helps us to understand why. I have watched people spend years in frustration and thousands of dollars consulting an army of specialists, without getting real relief from their problem. Because these and others are diseases deeply connected with the state of our emotional bodies. Too often, the Western medical approach fails to address the emotional dimension of illness. This is where traditional plant medicines, with their ability to alter consciousness and open channels of communication to our emotions, offer so much promise. The stories shared here demonstrate the astonishing—mystical, colorful, metaphysical—effects of ayahuasca and Traditional ian Plant Medicine. Follow Dr. Tafur through the jungle as he develops a breakthrough understanding of how psychoactive plants interact with the complex network that connects our minds and hearts to our physical anatomy. What Dr. Tafur presents here is nothing short of a paradigm shift for modern medicine, where sacred plants, used properly in ceremony, take their place as important tools in the doctor’s medicine chest, offering the missing elements of emotional and spiritual healing that have eluded us for so long.

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Customer Reviews

If you have not heard about medicinal plant medicine, you will hear about it very soon. I have personally experienced profound healing in my time working with the author. Knowing Dr. Tafur personally is a true gift and he has helped me more than hours of therapy or pharmaceuticals could even scratch the surface on. This is a great, straight forward explanation of what is happening with this medicinal healing movement wrapped in Dr. Tafur's inspiring personal story. Fantastic book and very easy read. I give it my highest recommendation.

The Fellowship of the River traces an American Medical Doctor's experience of training in shamanic healing with ayahuasca. This is a rare glimpse into the very process of how ayahuasca heals from both an indigenous perspective learned during his shamanic training and a Western medical point of view. One of the book's most important contributions is how ayahuasca helps shamans to see illness in the body and how it enables them to remove dark energy with songs. Dr Tafur reveals how

the medicine opens up the shaman's gift for singing and how the Shipibo designs contribute to the healing process. This book will help guide readers both before and after their ayahuasca experiences.

For those who are curious and have yet to experience this gift (ayahuasca shamanism) of the Jungle, and seeking clarity on ayahuasca shamanism; Dr. Tafur offers a beautifully crafted vehicle for the reader(passenger). With this vehicle, he takes you on a journey deep into the jungle. A journey well navigated, Into the depths and shines light which pierces through the mysteries. In the end, leaving the passenger with a renewed sense of understanding of a gift often misunderstood. Dr. Tafur smoothly cuts through the curves and turns of the subject so that all (novice and experienced in the subject of ayahuasca shamanism) will gain a keepsake of knowledge deep within the chambers of the heart. His ability to create a bridge for everyone to cross in order to reach this is a wonder to have come across.

Reading this book brought me back to the faith trust and inspire divine will to know that exist people impeccable and with integrity to immersed them selves in a subject which I had investigated for the last 25 years as a therapist in alternative holistic studies not as a medical doctor necessary studying with different maestros ,vegetalistas, curanderos,tribal community called shamans for the eyes of the beholders circles and the ones called brujos I enter in a space of personal conclusions as I was invited twice to participate in the international conference of shamanism being also as a therapist in towns within the jungle life styles I learn things not yet shared but I decided no yet .This writing of the book enhanced in me yes is TRUTH that people like joseph Tafur open a gate and a new healing circle officially for the ones which are called to unite sciences of universal insights eternal and wise beyond languages and stories or mathematical conclusions of sciences I highly recommend this book for truth in the heart seekers in this particular subject ./Nicolas Prassinios from Greece lving in usa ./

Amazing book. Very well written. This book provides insights into the world of shamanism and shines light on how the tradition of ayahuasca and other medicinal plants have been used within indigenous cultures (Shipibo) for healing. Loved the author's personal story and connection to this practice and his approachable presentation of technical concepts for the non-doctors and layman readers. His honesty and work is inspiring. Truly enjoyed this book and highly recommend!

This is one of the most important books on this subject. As so many diseases and illnesses are on the rise, our medical system is ill equipped to handle them all. Dr. Tafur proposes a fresh perspective on utilizing ancient technologies to get to the root cause of many modern illnesses and conditions, offering hope and healing to those who have not found health in a prescription bottle.

As Ayahuasca has rapidly emerged into awareness in the modern world, hundreds of books have been written about it. However, many have a limited perspective. The Fellowship of the River fills a gap in the published literature, and much needed at this time. The discourse provides well-embellished explanations of how the mechanism of the medicine, in partnership with the shaman, works within the scientific understanding of the healing process. It is also a deeply personal story, engaging and written with humility and honesty. Dr. Joe's book is one that I would highly recommend to those new to the Ayahuasca medicine, as well as to those who are well experienced.

Joseph Tafur does a great job of explaining and describing the Ayahuasca experience in a way that is truthful and does not lead you to have any false expectations. If you are like many other people who are wondering what drinking Ayahuasca is like this is a great book to answer that question for you. What's unique is that Joseph is also an American doctor so even if you are a seasoned Ayahuasca drinker you get the experience from a medical perspective. Joseph does a great job in making the context relatable and easy to read. Highly recommend! Must read!

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