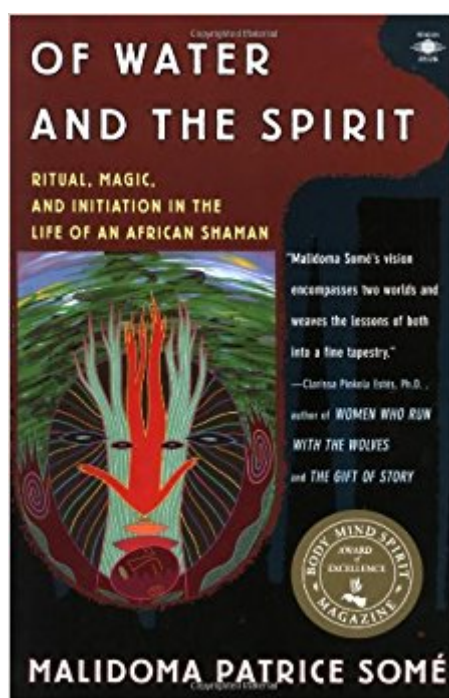


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# Of Water And The Spirit: Ritual, Magic And Initiation In The Life Of An African Shaman (Compass)



## Synopsis

Maliodoma Patrice Some was born in a Dagara Village, however he was soon to be abducted to a Jesuit school, where he remained for the next fifteen years, being harshly indoctrinated into European ways of thought and worship. The story tells of his return to his people, his hard initiation back into those people, which lead to his desire to convey their knowledge to the world. *Of Water and the Spirit* is the result of that desire; it is a sharing of living African traditions, offered in compassion for those struggling with our contemporary crisis of the spirit.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Born in West Africa in the early 1950s--the author is indefinite about the year--Some was kidnapped at age four by a French Jesuit missionary to be trained as a priest, for the next 15 years enduring the harsh regimen of a seminary where his native language and tribal traditions were systematically suppressed. At age 20 he escaped, but when he returned to his Dugara people in Upper Volta (now Burkina Faso) they rejected him as an outsider. To reconnect with his native culture, Some underwent a month-long initiation into shamanism during which he reports that he journeyed to the underworld, became a bird, then a porcupine and was buried alive. A self-described "man of two worlds," Some, who holds a doctoral degree in political science from the Sorbonne and one in literature from Brandeis, is a speaker at men's movement conferences in the US. This vivid autobiography takes readers into a world of black magic, palpable spirits, walking dead people, force fields, transdimensional journeys--a world as strange as anything in imaginative fiction. QPB

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Some, who was born about 1956 in Upper Volta, was close to his shaman grandfather. But this relationship and his tribal way of life was destroyed when, at age four, he was kidnapped by a French Jesuit missionary and raised in a seminary, from which he escaped at age 20. Returning home to his Dagara village, he was viewed by some as too tainted by white knowledge and ways to be able to join fully in tribal life; nevertheless, he underwent an intensive and dangerous six-week shamanic initiation that thoroughly established him as a member of the tribe. Later, he was dismayed to learn his destiny as revealed in divination and decreed by tribal elders: to return to the white world as a bridge to save his tribe from complete inculturation. This fascinating autobiography illustrates the profound culture clashes between Western civilization and indigenous cultures. Recommended for large public and academic libraries. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book delivers more than just another look at Ritual, Magic and spiritual ways. It lays out knowledge that so many have forgotten of the ancient ways, and how we have become lost in a world of confusion. This book leads one back to the roots of our true nature, to our tribal background, to the roots of our soul.

This book is so relatable....I'm the complete opposite though...I was born into a lie and now having to untangle myself from the lies and the false history...this book has been a great help!

An amazing autobiography that recounts a story of a boy growing up in Africa in the early 1960's and his abduction from his African village by French missionaries when he was a small child. He manages to get back to his family when he is much older but is a stranger to them and to himself. His weaving together of his spiritual shamanic roots and his Western education is a triumph in bridging incredibly different worlds and cultures. He writes eloquently and simply. A real pleasure to read and ponder!

Man i dont even have the words to describe this book affectively, it has become one of my favorites.. A must read for anyone walking the spiritual path... For the seeker..

Part adventure story, part spiritual quest, and a glimpse into a culture of magic and mystery - I couldn't put this book down. The writing practically sparkles on the page. It's ironic that such an eloquent spokesman for a tribal way of life is a product of the very schools designed to eradicate those values. Thank you, Malidoma for giving us this story!

Not exactly what I was looking for, but an interesting read anyway. Delivered on time, packaged well.

Awesome!!!

A book that will bring a whole other perspective into your life and one that you will always remember.

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