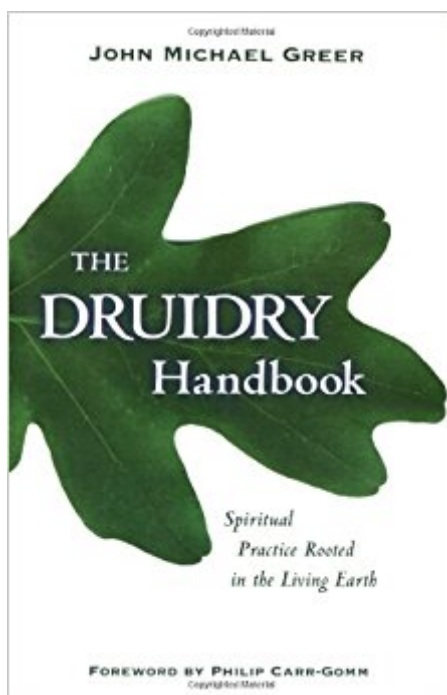


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The Druidry Handbook: Spiritual Practice Rooted In The Living Earth



Synopsis

A living tradition of nature spirituality rooted in Celtic antiquity and revived to meet the challenges of contemporary life, Druidry offers people a path of harmony through reconnection with the green Earth. The *Druidry Handbook* is the first hands-on manual of traditional British Druid practice that explores the Sun Path of seasonal celebration, the Moon Path of meditation, and the Earth Path of living in harmony with nature as tools for crafting an earth-honoring life here and now. From ritual and meditation to nature awareness and ecological action, John Michael Greer opens the door to a spirituality rooted in the living Earth. Featuring a mix of philosophy, rituals, spiritual practice, and lifestyle issues, *The Druidry Handbook* is one-stop shopping for those seriously interested in practicing a traditional form of Druidry. It offers equal value to eclectics and solitary practitioners eager to incorporate more earth-spirituality into their own belief system; it also appeals to the merely curious.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Weiser Books (January 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1578633540

ISBN-13: 978-1578633548

Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 0.9 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 72 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #140,269 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #13 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Druidism](#) #22 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Celtic](#) #505 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Divination](#)

Customer Reviews

John Michael Greer has been a student of the occult traditions and nature spirituality for more than 25 years. He began following the Druid path in 1993 with initiation in the Order of Bards, Ovates, and Druids (OBOD). In 2003, he received OBOD's Mount Haemus Award for Druid scholarship and later the same year was elected Grand Archdruid of the Ancient Order of Druids in America (AODA). Greer is the author of numerous articles and eighteen books, including *Paths of Wisdom*, *Circles of Power*, *Inside a Magical Lodge*, *Natural Magic*, *Monsters*, *The Druid Magic Handbook*, and *The New*

Encyclopedia of the Occult. He recently coauthored Learning Ritual Magic. Philip Carr-Gomm is Chief of the Order of Bards, Ovates and Druids. Philip is the author of a number of works on Druidry, and since the publication of his first book in 1991 he has been in demand worldwide for radio, television and newspaper interviews.

As a comprehensive and well thought out view of Druidry, I recommend this book. It gives a view of Druidry based on the AODA (Ancient Order of Druids in America) system of which Greer is the leader. While this book provides all the information a person needs to start on the path of Druidry, I would recommend also reading one of the fine books by Philip Carr-Gomm or Emma Restall-Orr to see a slightly different perspective.

Excellent book, clearly written. It provides concrete information about druidry history, current practice, symbolism, and the ogham, Throughout the history section, I felt like the author offered a discerning, academically-sound analysis of what we know instead of taking the classic everything-you-ever-heard-is-true approach. Enough detail was provided about the three rays of light, three circles of manifestation, and three elements of nature that you can actually DO something with the knowledge, instead of needing to pay someone else for more information. A book worthy of my time.

Greer lays out the basics of modern druidry, including detailed background on the druid path, as well as providing guidelines and practice for individuals to follow to being their path as a druid. I would definitely recommend this book to anyone interested in Celtic-based neo-paganism. Personally, I lean more towards the Heathen path, but that doesn't mean there weren't some good tidbits for me to pick up from this book. Greer describes in detail some great meditation and breathing techniques, as well as techniques designed to pull positive energy in and keep negative energy out. Not that I have anything against Wicca, out of the pagan books that are commonly recommended, it tends to dominate. It's always good to find information about alternative neo-pagan paths. The only reason I didn't rate this book higher is because, as I said before, I think my path heads more to German neo-paganism, rather than Druidry/Celtic neo-paganism.

This book is well worth the buy. Unlike so many other authors, John makes sure to explain that this is modern druidry, not ancient druidry. He doesn't try to pass off anything as ancient knowledge and even explains that some of the main texts of modern druidry is questionable when you consider

whether its ancient or not. He gets you to understand that this is not important. druidry is a way of life, not a religion or a set of dogmas set in stone. Feel welcome no matter what your religion, its about reverance for the earth,land and changing the way you approach modern societies wasteful ways that everyone just accepts as "The way to be". This is by no means an ecofreak book though. It offers ways to change but doesnt act snooty or self righteous.This book is full of mysticism aswell. It has several elemental charts, including the druid elementals, in depth ritual instructions and wheel of the year info aswell. It lays down the basics of druidism and at the end of the chapters it has a list of suggested reading. On top of this it has a section on the Ogham alphabet, instructs you on the divinitory meaning and such.It also covers meditation. Color breathing, thats all Im gonna say, you need to read the rest lol.It lays down the paths, earth path, sunpath, moon path. And it gives you the 1st degree curriculum, so basically you can get started right away on your path to druidism. btw i am a follower of the witch path and this is a great way to suppliment that or any religious path.I would reccomend this book to all who are on spiritual paths in life.

Brilliant. An easy enough read to be of real help to the novice practitioner but with multiple layers unfolding with each reading and with continuing practice of the druidry path. Its beauty is in its simplicity and straightforwardness while not only allowing but actually promoting the customization of its teaching and rituals in ways that mesh with your own beliefs, experience, and path of choice. Well done, Mr Greer!

This is an extremely practical book with exercises as simple as spending 10 minutes outside aware of your surrounding or picking an object and studying it for 5 minutes. When I ordered this I was curious what Druidry was and this book explains it very well. Common beliefs they used to hold as well as the historical progression of modern Druidry. This makes for an easy read and has many practical exercises that will bring you closer to the earth. I've barely started and I'm already starting to see the earth as a much more beautiful place.

I bought this book not to become a Druid candidate, but to learn a little about the elements of what appeared to be a self-empowering nature-centered spirituality. In this respect, the book fulfilled all my expectations.The book addresses three major topics: The history of the Druid Revival, Druid philosophy and symbolism, and Druid practice. Each topic was covered in enough depth to be able to get a good idea of the basic principles involved, along with many of their interconnections. Yet it was not so advanced that the ideas were hard to grasp or required a lot of previous study and

reflection. John Michael Greer is an excellent writer. He writes clearly and concisely. His structure flows easily and logically, and it is certainly clear that his knowledge of the subject is both deep and wide. I came away with a better idea of the elements necessary for a psychologically healthy spirituality. Being nature-centered, Druid philosophy is systems based. Study, meditation, reflection and ritual form another part of the spiritual tradition. Finally, active participation is required in order that we live in alignment with our values. We would all do well to live by these principles.

I bought this to see if AODA was right for me as it is a sister organization to OBDD. This book is used as their introduction lessons. There is lots of good information in the book and it is designed to carry you through the first year of training. It gives you a list of other reading material that you should read along with meditations and ritual. If you are interested in AODA this will be your first year of lessons.

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