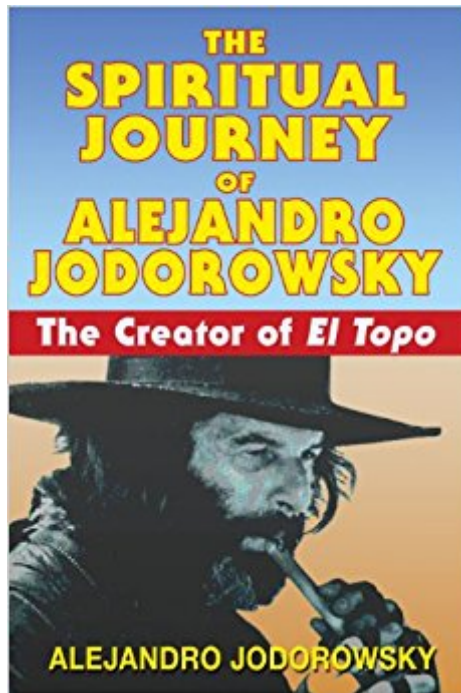


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The Spiritual Journey Of Alejandro Jodorowsky: The Creator Of El Topo



Synopsis

Jodorowsky's memoirs of his experiences with Master Takata and the group of wisewomen--magiciennes--who influenced his spiritual growth • Reveals Jodorowsky turning the same unsparing spiritual vision seen in *El Topo* to his own spiritual quest • Shows how the author's spiritual insight and progress was catalyzed repeatedly by wisewoman shamans and healers In 1970, John Lennon introduced to the world Alejandro Jodorowsky and the movie, *El Topo*, that he wrote, starred in, and directed. The movie and its author instantly became a counterculture icon. The New York Times said the film "demands to be seen," and Newsweek called it "An Extraordinary Movie." But that was only the beginning of the story and the controversy of *El Topo*, and the journey of its brilliant creator. His spiritual quest began with the Japanese master Ejo Takata, the man who introduced him to the practice of meditation, Zen Buddhism, and the wisdom of the koans. Yet in this autobiographical account of his spiritual journey, Jodorowsky reveals that it was a small group of wisewomen, far removed from the world of Buddhism, who initiated him and taught him how to put the wisdom he had learned from his master into practice. At the direction of Takata, Jodorowsky became a student of the surrealist painter Leonora Carrington, thus beginning a journey in which vital spiritual lessons were transmitted to him by various women who were masters of their particular crafts. These women included Doña Magdalena, who taught him "initiatic" or spiritual massage; the powerful Mexican actress known as La Tigresa (the "tigress"); and Reyna D'Assia, daughter of the famed spiritual teacher G. I. Gurdjieff. Other important wisewomen on Jodorowsky's spiritual path include María Sabina, the priestess of the sacred mushrooms; the healer Pachita; and the Chilean singer Violeta Parra. The teachings of these women enabled him to discard the emotional armor that was hindering his advancement on the path of spiritual awareness and enlightenment.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

There is more real spiritual wisdom in this book than a crate load of 'how to find enlightenment' books. Jodorowsky's mentor, Ejo Takata is a wise and funny Zen master and his teachings steer the book, but it is life itself - often in the guise of "wise women" (or raving nutters) (or both) - who supply the lessons. Jodorowsky's encounters with these women - including doña Magdalena, La Tigresa (the Tigress), Reyna D'Assia (Gurdjieff's daughter), mushroom shaman MarÃa Sabina, the rather brilliant healer Pachita, and the Chilean crazy singer Violeta Parra are often hilarious, surreal and meaningless in themselves - like most things in life - until, that is we (or, in this case, Jodo) finds meaning in them. The final conclusion of course is that life "is what it is", its only purpose being to live it. This is the real route to spiritual awareness and enlightenment, not sticking angel-charged crystals from the Pleiades up our seventh chakras. A brilliant book which I read in one sitting during a san pedro ceremony in Spain. Just to make sure I went back and read it again when I was no longer cactified and it was still brilliant. Really really recommended.

I HIGHLY recommend this book... it's rare that I have a serious emotional reaction while reading such as laughing or crying - and I think it's a testament to Jodorowsky's genius that he could elicit such deep feelings in me. I laughed and sobbed multiple times. This really is a brilliant documentation about a man's spiritual journey. True or not -- I learned a lot. His investigation into Koans was mind-bending, in the best of ways. Regardless of what you think about his filmmaking, this book stands on its own. For my full review see: [...]

Great book by this great surrealist master. His first encounter with Leonora Carrington as he described it is simply amazing! surreal surreal surreal surreal surreal surreal. If you are a big fan of Jodo buy this book but read first "La Danza de la Realidad" [The Dance of Reality].

I wholeheartedly recommend reading this outstanding story of Alejandro Jodorowsky, one of the greatest, most inspiring and delightful men I met. His story is breathtaking, fantastic and mostly inspiring to love and be loved and explore life to its maximum.

This book is a unique mix of an artist's personal and creative philosophy, expressed as a biographical narrative. There are places in the imagination that Jodorowski drags us through as a living experience, at times unbelievable but super-poignant.

I am so stoked by this book. This is a sublime adventure into his life and I recommend to anyone with curiosity of achieving the magnificence of life experience to dive in. Reply to this review if you can think of a koan that reflects 's business practices.

Alejandro has the best life experiences ever! It delivers great teachings and wisdom. Cabaret Mistico, the dance of reality and this book is a must!

must say alejandro jodorowsky is quite the artist writer director etc. if you want to see, or read a total mind trip with the likes of salvador dali he is the one to deliver

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