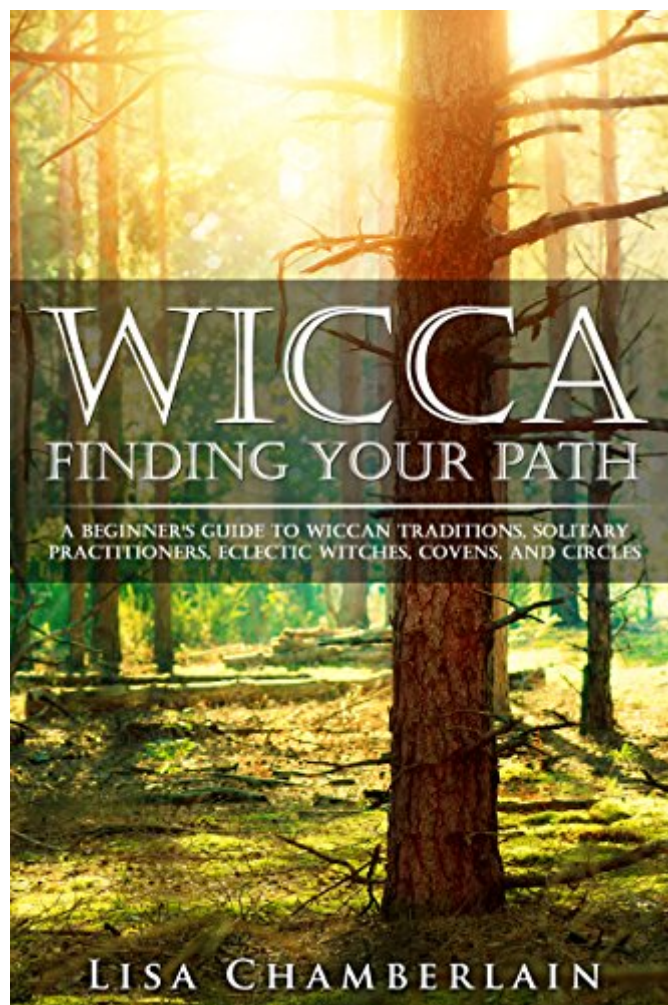


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Wicca Finding Your Path: A Beginner's Guide To Wiccan Traditions, Solitary Practitioners, Eclectic Witches, Covens, And Circles



Synopsis

Everything You Need to Know About Wicca, from Best-Selling Wicca Author Lisa Chamberlain

It is estimated that there are over 1 million practicing Wiccans around the world today. But what is it that has made these people turn their back on the formal, structured religions that encompass the majority of the Western world? In our modern, high-pressured world, many of us fail to take notice the sheer beauty of the natural world surrounding us. In many ways, this is a travesty: the world we live in today seems so completely distant from the one our ancestors lived in, a world where humans and nature were at one, their existence intertwined in the natural cycles of life. Wicca is a new way of life, a religion that takes you back to a more simple time, before the invention of the high-tech gadgetry we see all around us. You will learn to live and appreciate the natural world that surrounds you, celebrating the intricate changes in the seasons and everything they bring – from the bounties of the Summer harvest, to the cold and darkness of the Winter months, as Mother Nature rests in preparation for the next explosive cycle of life that Spring brings. Wicca is a re-incarnation of the very earliest religions, long pre-dating Christianity. Wiccans celebrate and share many of the same beliefs that these early people held, and try to embrace their way of life, all while remaining fully-functional in today's modern world.

Getting Started as a Wiccan

If you're sold on this new, exciting, peaceful way of life, that's great! Good to have you on-board. Unfortunately, and despite this commitment, this is where many people get stumped. One of the biggest questions I hear would-be Wiccans ask: "how do I start practicing Wicca?" The truth is, there is no right answer. If you endeavour to learn as much as possible about this religion, follow the core principles (for example, the Threefold Law), and revere the natural world surrounding you, as far as I'm concerned, you're a Wiccan. If you're just starting out, I'm sure this vague answer is of little help to you! That's why I set out to write this mini-series of books, titled Starting Your Journey. In this particular book, you'll learn everything you need to know about Wicca traditions – including solitary practitioners, eclectic witches, covens, and circles.

The Main Wiccan Traditions

Practicing magic isn't compulsory for Wiccans, however many people are inevitably attracted to the religion by the potential to positively change their lives for the better. As such, spellwork is one of the most discussed parts of being Wiccan. If you want to start practicing magic, it can help to join like-minded individuals. Both covens and circles can provide you with a sense of belonging by joining a small Wiccan community. As well as the social aspect, they are a great place to acquire knowledge, and many will mark the important Wiccan dates – the sabbats and esbats – with rituals and celebrations. In this book, we'll be looking at everything you need to know about covens and circles, including their history, their structures, and how to join one. Don't

worry, though â “ not everyone wants to be part of a community, and thatâ™s perfectly fine, too. In this book, weâ™ll be discussing all of your options, including a solitary path. We'll also look at the main Wiccan traditions: Gardnerian, Alexandrian, and Dianic, as well as a handful of less common traditions. You donâ™t have to follow one of the traditions rigidly â “ and indeed, many Wiccan donâ™t, choosing to become eclectic practitioners. If you need help finding your place within the Wiccan community, you're in the right place. Wicca: Finding Your Path will teach you everything you need to know about starting your own Wiccan journey, today!

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Customer Reviews

As is usual with this author, this book contains a lot of very concrete information, with numerous examples, and is written in an easily understandable style (no endless, overly flowery sentences) which I really like. There is enough information that the basics are really covered, but not so much that the reader feels lost in it. There is only one tiny thing I wish would have been explicated: there was a mention of 'the Celtic classification of elements [as opposed to] the standard Wiccan system',

and I feel having the Celtic classification of elements quickly explained in the book itself rather than having to google it would have been a plus. In my opinion, it also would have been nice to mention that sometimes, beginners who start out with Wicca end up in non-Wiccan Pagan religions (like I did); I'm not sure how common it is, but I don't think I'm the only one? Even as a non-beginner, I did learn a few things (for instance, I knew Wiccan covens could vary in size, but I did not know they could have as few as three members). I appreciated that the author touches on both positive and negative aspects of every situation, trying to provide information that is as unbiased as possible given the very personal nature of Wicca. And, even as a non-Wiccan, I again find that I can apply some of the advice given to my own practice by analogy, which is always nice, and why I keep reading these books. =)[Just so the people reading these reviews know exactly where I'm coming from with this â" if it's not of interest to you, you can skip the rest, nothing else is going to be about the book itself. I'm an eclectic Pagan; I don't consider myself a Wiccan anymore, but I considered myself one for about a year and a half before I found out that Wicca wasn't actually the right path for me. I've been a solitary practitioner for about four years (I'm kind of a lone wolf in everything in life, so it follows that my religious practice would be solitary as well).]

Most of the time when people say the word coven they immediately think of a group of people in black robes surrounding a cauldron. In reality, it is a spiritual community. This book provides a brief history of witchcraft and Wicca, along with a breakdown of how covens are structured. It also discusses the pros and cons of being in a coven, while also showing the possible solitary path one might choose. The author discusses the differences between Wiccan traditions while emphasizing the importance of finding your own path in your spiritual journey. A well written book that provides a solid base to begin your travels into Wicca.

This is the best book on the various forms of Wicca I have read to date. It fantastically and briefly described the most popular forms of Wicca. Covens, circles, and solitary practice are also discussed with great highlights. Most books I've read only mentions covens and completely leave out circles. Lisa gives great descriptions of both. This book, combined with her Wicca for Beginners, is a great place to start if you're curious about Wicca.

This may be the "the tip of the iceberg" as Lisa Chamberlain calls this little book but anyone looking for a truly comprehensive guide to Wicca should have to look no further. The book is an informative guide from the history up through the evolution and offshoots of Wicca. So whether you have a

casual interest or a heartfelt desire to become a member of a coven or a solitary practitioner of this growing spiritual belief, you should start here.

When i look at all the books i have read on magic and Wicca, Lisa Chamberlain's name comes up on the books I have enjoyed and learned from. Wicca Covens is another fine example of how to cover a subject! She gives you the history of covens and also the personal dynamics that one can find in a group. Covens are made up of people with a joint view of the world. The problems that can come about from this are covered showing both the good and the bad. I personally would have wished I could have read this book before trying to join a coven, it would have alerted me to the signs I blissfully ignored. She shows the many different traditions and makeups that can be found and explains very well how they came about. I have only one request of the author, could you combine all of your books into one volume, it would have a central spot on my bookcase!

Wicca Covens: A Beginner's Guide to Covens, Circles, Solitary Practitioners, Eclectic Witches, and the Main Wiccan Traditions By Lisa Chamberlain This book is a good book to read, it gives information and background on Coven and Circles, the references she gives are current and easy to look up and review. Lisa Chamberlain gives a brief history and common Wiccan paths to help a beginner make a good choice for their journey. Pamela L. Doane.

Lisa has a way with ideas that are easy to put into practice. This book shows ways to put into daily living the little and big things that hold us close to the path we have chosen. Can't wait to read more of Lisa's writings.

Being a Solitary Practitioner the book is very helpful. I learned of the different practitioners, as well as the different traditions, and the different Wicca's. It's helping me find my own path and there are so many resources. The more I read the more I understand and feel comfortable with who I am.

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