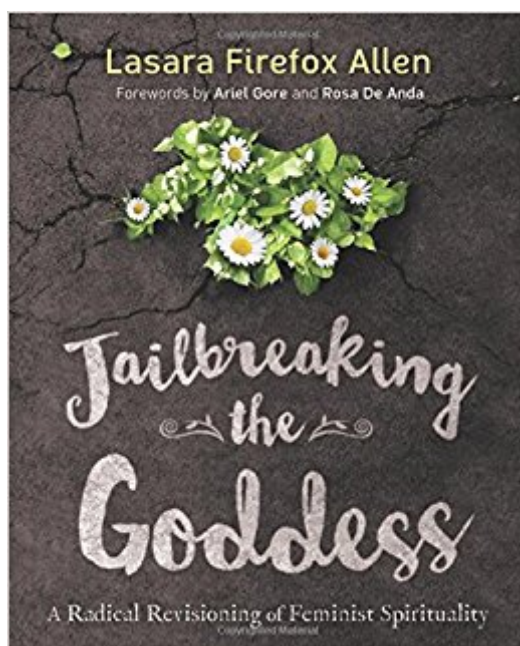


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Jailbreaking The Goddess: A Radical Revisioning Of Feminist Spirituality



Synopsis

"Jailbreaking the Goddess is an important contribution to the writings on Goddess tradition and feminist spirituality. . . . I love her political savvy, her sensitivity around issues of diversity and cultural awareness and appropriation, and her unabashed celebration of pleasure, sensuality, and life!" •Starhawk Jailbreaking the Goddess is a revolutionary revisioning of the feminine divine. Where the maiden, mother, crone archetypal system is tied to female biology and physical stages of life, the fivefold model liberates the female experience from the shackles of the reproductive model. In a woman's lifetime, she will go through several different cycles of beginnings, potential, creation, mastery, and wisdom. This fivefold model is not an adaptation of the threefold. It is a new system that embraces the powerful, fluid nature of the lived experience of women today. Join Lasara Firefox Allen as she explores the nature of the five archetypes; gives examples of what areas of life each might preside over; lists goddesses that fit within each archetype; suggests ways to begin building relationship with the different archetypes; and provides simple rituals for recognition, transition, and invocation. Praise:"Lasara Firefox Allen has liberated the divine feminine from her tired tropes and set her free in a single step toward our collective embrace of a decolonized spirituality." •Darcy Totten and Jasper James, *Activism Articulated* "This fiercely inspired body of work is art, theory, and passion. Genius." •Rosa De Anda, from her foreword "Lasara Firefox Allen delves deep into the ways in which colonialist language has shaped our experience of the divine feminine. . . . This is an innovative work that has the potential to change the face of modern feminist spirituality." •Suzanne Sterling, founder of Voice of Change "Jailbreaking The Goddess is a delicious tool for dismantling (and reimagining) the way we think about women's spirituality and power. [The] fivefold goddess model honors the divine nature in all women, regardless of age, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, and economic status. This is an exciting, smart, and practical approach to liberating the mind, body, and spirit." •Laurie Lovekraft, *Reclaiming Witch*, priestess, and Huffington Post columnist "In Allen's vision the goddess is young and old, creative and wise, and above all strong. This is a Goddess who can map onto our own journeys at any part of our life. Allen's gentle, fierce, and wise work guides us through the process of rebuilding our sense of ourselves as holy through relationship to these new faces of the Goddess." •Brandy Williams, author of *For the Love of the Gods and The Woman Magician* "Jailbreaking the Goddess is challenging, unabashed and wild, yet thoughtful and articulate. I found pieces of myself and my personal Goddess journey that have never been illuminated by any other text. Lasara Firefox Allen has truly broken the Goddess out of an antiquated jail. The world needs this freed Goddess. This book is part of that liberation." •Courtney

Weber, author of *Brigid: History, Mystery, and Magick* "Reading *Jailbreaking the Goddess* is a view into a world that but rarely exposes itself to the likes of me. The magic is classic, but updated to self-rooted authority, and the politics are heart-felt, leading to a vision of societal transformation centered on the Woman of Power, Wisdom, and Compassion." •Sam Webster, PhD, MDiv, Executive Director of the Pantheon Foundation "Whilst honoring the roots of Goddess worship, Lasara has successfully opened up avenues of exploration for anyone who identifies with worship of the feminal divine in clear and loving guidance towards a stronger community of men, women, and all in between." •Xochiquetzal Duti Odinsdottir, HPs/x, Wayfarer Tradition

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Customer Reviews

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Knight, musician and priestess "Yes and more yes to this new model, which moves us out of the expectation of conformation to outdated cultural norms. One of the things I love most about this book is how it allows for other forms to exist within it (and you!). It's an opening of possibility for all women to re-divine all parts of ourselves." •Jenya T. Beachy, teacher, blogger, and author of the forthcoming *The Secret Country of Yourself* "A fantastic and sorely needed contribution to feminist spirituality discourse. It breaks open the tired tropes of maiden, mother, crone and makes more space for the variety of lived experiences of anyone who relates to the female experience." •Niki Whiting, MA, co-founder of Many Gods West "In Allen's vision the goddess is young and old, creative and wise, and above all strong. This is a Goddess who can map onto our own journeys at any part of our life. Allen's gentle, fierce, and wise work guides us through the process of rebuilding our sense of ourselves as holy through relationship to these new faces of the Goddess." •Brandy Williams, author of *For the Love of the Gods* and *The Woman Magician* "Lasara Firefox Allen has created what may well be the definitive guide to feminist spirituality. . . . The depth of Lasara's passion, knowledge, and skill allows her to reveal and reframe the fundamentals of magick in a way that will have a lasting impact within the field of magick and throughout the wider culture." •Philip H. Farber, author of *Brain Magick* "Jailbreaking the Goddess" is challenging, unabashed and wild, yet thoughtful and articulate. I found pieces of myself and my personal Goddess journey that have never been illuminated by any other text. Lasara Firefox Allen has truly broken the Goddess out of an antiquated jail. The world needs this freed Goddess. This book is part of that liberation." •Courtney Weber, author of *Brigid: History, Mystery, and Magick* "Reading *Jailbreaking the Goddess* is a view into a world that but rarely exposes itself to the likes of me. The magic is classic, but updated to self-rooted authority, and the politics are heart-felt, leading to a vision of societal transformation centered on the Woman of Power, Wisdom, and Compassion." •Sam Webster, PhD, MDiv, Executive Director of the Pantheon Foundation "Whilst honoring the roots of Goddess worship, Lasara has successfully opened up avenues of exploration for anyone who identifies with worship of the feminal divine in clear and loving guidance towards a stronger community of men, women, and all in between." •Xochiquetzal Duti Odinsdottir, HPs/x, Wayfarer Tradition "For nearly fifty years I have been the consort of a most extraordinary Woman/Priestess/Goddess. Never in those fifty years (or in our childhood years that preceded them) has her divine and infinite person-hood ever allowed itself to be limited and taken captive by the simplistic classic model of maid, mother, and crone. Lasara Firefox Allen's fivefold goddess model identifies and describes the Mysteries of Modern Woman, and comes dangerously close to allowing me to at least hear Her sphinx's riddle." •Lon Milo DuQuette,

author of *Low Magick* "Lasara has brought us the goddesses who speak across time and space, who invite us to be inclusive and intersectional in our worship. . . . They remind us that the survival of our species, of all species of life, requires that we create diverse, complex, dynamic communities." •Mai Williams, journalist, teacher, activist, and editor of *Revolutionary Mothering* "Moving beyond our feminine biology as a definition of who we are and how we relate to the divine feminine, Lasara Firefox Allen creates a whole new template more suitable for women today. It is a game changer." •Anodea Judith, PhD, author of *Wheels of Life* and *Anodea Judith's Chakra Yoga* "This book makes room for discussions that include colonization, appropriation, representation, binary gender concerns, sexuality, and many other elements of dominant culture. . . . Each section gives a wealth of information on the ways in which we can connect to the five archetypes that Firefox Allen has presented." •Crystal Blanton, MSW, editor of *Bringing Race to the Table*

I wrote *Jailbreaking the Goddess* as a way to remediate what I saw as problematic elements of patriarchal overshadowing (or root rot) within our goddess traditions. This book is born of the cleansing fire of transformation. *Jailbreaking* is an invitation to us all to grow beyond the patriarchal assumptions that leave many of us outside of the circle. May the new forms offered here carry us a step (or maybe even a few steps) closer to our individual and collective liberation.

I received this book by the author before it was released in exchange for a review and I'm so glad that I did. This book spoke to me in a way no other spiritual book has. Over the last few years I have become very disillusioned with Paganism and the labels within it. My practice no longer filled me with joy and I began to search outside of my faith. Reading *Jailbreaking the Goddess* has awoken me to an entirely new world. I love the creation/idea of the five faces of the goddesses instead of the traditional three-fold goddess which has never been a connection for me. It is based on biological phases that some women never enter and can't fit into. The five faces of the goddesses removes those ideas that are based upon a women's capability or inability to breed and instead focuses on THEM. What a novel concept! I loved how the author encouraged creating your own rituals, beliefs, and concepts based upon what works for the individual and not traditional methods. Social movements that were discussed in this book that have been on my mind lately about how to be inclusive of transgender women in women's only circles and creating those safe spaces and the idea of cultural appropriation. Finally someone in the spiritual community is bringing these ideas out into the open and saying it is time to take a hard look at our actions and fix the issues at hand. I

think that Jailbreaking the Goddess is a book that is going to take a lot of people by surprise because it challenges so many traditional ideas in the Pagan and Witchcraft communities that people have just accepted as fact and instead encourages them to think outside the box and start thinking for themselves. This book is a gamechanger in the magickal community and I think that is high time that someone put these views out there. Thank you Lasara Firefox Allen for Jailbreaking the Goddess; you have changed this witch's life, practice and outlook and for that I am deeply appreciative.

I received an e-copy of this book for review purposes. Reading Jailbreaking the Goddess was like reconnecting with a long-lost friend. Every few paragraphs I found myself saying "Yes! She gets it!" or "Of course! That makes perfect sense!" The questions Lasara poses are challenging, because they require us to look deeply at our own spiritual practices and see if we are honoring or appropriating with our religious practices; if we are helping others for our own spiritual and political gain or because we are working towards a common goal. There are many strands of feminist spirituality that have relied heavily on Maiden, Mother and Crone archetypes, but Lasara shows how this relies on the assumption that women exist to bear children for men and is deeply problematic because it deprives women of agency. The five-fold model she proposes is fluid, allowing us to move between archetypes or phases as we need to. It was great to read a book on feminist spirituality that I could recommend to any of my LGBTQI friends without a second thought. Her emphasis on decolonizing our spiritual traditions is also something I gladly welcome. She tackles cultural appropriation head on, which is something I see a need for in the larger Pagan spiritual community. I think my favorite part was the section on intention- it reminded me of a very dear mentor of mine. This is a book I will be rereading and referring to again and again. I am going to be incorporating the five-fold goddess model and sigils into my own spiritual practice because they matched my own experiences on such a deep level. I also loved Lasara's term "organic magick"- now I finally have a term for what I've been doing all along!

An excellent read. The author did a fantastic job of writing about the Female/Goddess and showing an alternate way of thinking about women in the form of 5 aspects - Femella, Potens, Creatrix, Sapientia, and Antiqua, rather than the usual 3 - Maiden, Mother, Crone. Positively done, and without the emphasis on a woman being useful when she's popping out kids. Thoroughly enjoyed this book.

I'm only through the first chapter but it's already an incredible experience; I'll update this review as I progress. I never felt I could relate to the maiden, mother, crone goddess format. The five fold goddess framework makes perfect sense to me and feels so liberating. I choose not to be a mother and I always felt invalidated as a woman by the trifold goddess. I literally found more personal validation in the first page of this book than from years of searching in other pagan perspectives. You have got to check this out.

For years I've struggled against the norm of "Womanhood" in particular the whole "Maid, Mother, Crone" dynamic. As a woman who does not want to have children right now, I realized that I did not have a place in that norm (and I refused to see myself as a child indefinitely just because I didn't want to reproduce). So a friend recommended this book to me and I absolutely fell in love with it. The author totally challenges the social norm by encouraging women to focus instead on life stages that all women go through and continue to go through their whole life. In her book she lists 5 stages (the inner child, the warrior, the scholar, the creator, and wise woman), and even better those stages are not cemented in a woman's age bracket or affiliated with their reproductive organs. For example, one of the stages focuses on the inner child and the author says that the inner child is with us all the time. We can be 60 and still have moments where the inner girl child comes out and we be silly. We've all seen those silly free-spirited older ladies. They are embracing their inner child. How cool is that?!! Aside from her system, the book also has a bunch of exercises that the readers can do to become more in tune with their spirit and the things that influence their life. Finally, if that's not enough, the author provides some lovely short biographies on various Female leaders who embrace each one of the various stages in order to make positive changes in the world. So overall the book is jam packed with lots of info and deep spirit work to help women channel their divine feminine.

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