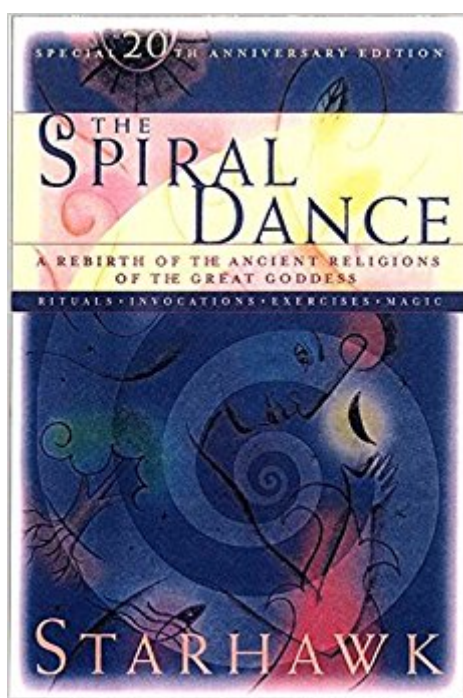


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# The Spiral Dance: A Rebirth Of The Ancient Religion Of The Goddess: 20th Anniversary Edition



## Synopsis

The twentieth anniversary edition of *The Spiral Dance* celebrates the pivotal role the book has had in bringing Goddess worship to the religious forefront. This bestselling classic is both an unparalleled reference on the practices and philosophies of Witchcraft and a guide to the life-affirming ways in which readers can turn to the Goddess to deepen their sense of personal pride, develop their inner power, and integrate mind, body, and spirit. Starhawk's brilliant, comprehensive overview of the growth, suppression, and modern-day re-emergence of Wicca as a Goddess-worshipping religion has left an indelible mark on the feminist spiritual consciousness. In a new introduction, Starhawk reveals the ways in which Goddess religion and the practice of ritual have adapted and developed over the last twenty years, and she reflects on the ways in which these changes have influenced and enhanced her original ideas. In the face of an ever-changing world, this invaluable spiritual guidebook is more relevant than ever.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A very beautiful call for a worldly spirituality." -- "New York Times Book Review"  
"Lucid, appealing...a broad philosophy of harmony with nature, of human concord, sexual liberation, creativity, and healthy pleasure, as expressed and celebrated in a freewheeling worship of the universe." -- "Kirkus Review"

Starhawk is the author of nine books, including her bestselling *The Spiral Dance*, *The Pagan Book of Living and Dying*, and *Webs of Power*, winner of the 2003 Nautilus Award for social change. She has an international reputation, and her works have been translated into many different languages. Starhawk is also a columnist for [beliefnet.com](http://beliefnet.com) and ZNet. A veteran of progressive movements who is deeply committed to bringing the techniques and creative power of spirituality to political activism, she travels internationally, teaching magic, the tools of ritual, and the skills of activism. Starhawk lives part-time in San Francisco, in a collective house with her partner and friends, and part-time in a little hut in the woods in western Sonoma County, where she practices permaculture in her extensive gardens and writes.

The only reason I can't leave five stars for this amazing book is because even when I told that they sent me a different printing edition than the one pictured (it was still a 20th anniversary edition, but not with the pretty coloured cover as shown. Instead, they said they would replace it and sent me a second copy with the same black cover that they sent me the first time that you can see from my customer image, is not the cover advertised with the listing. I know that shouldn't matter, and I've dropped it since they clearly didn't understand what they were supposed to be replacing it with, but I really did think the cover that was pictured was lovely and wish they would have managed to send me one like in the picture. Oh well. Starhawk's legendary work made up for it. This is a pagan classic and belongs on every Goddess worshipper's shelf. This was the beginning of the modern rebirth of the Goddess movement and the history alone is so inspiring and compelling. The prologue she wrote for the 20th anniversary in the beginning is very good and very insightful. It details how she has grown and evolved since the first printing and what things is any she would have done differently now than then, if she had it to write all over again with the perspective of 20 more years. Excellent read.

Hi all! some people commented that it should be more "updated". I was worried about that when buying it. I live in Italy (am italian) and very new to these topic, and to American writers on this topic. I have been reading Vicky Noble, Marija Gimbutas, Jean Bolen... wicca only read blogs online and so on. But only recently heard about Starhawk. So I was worried about buying "an old book" that was not enough "updated" to women's situation all over the world. It's absolutely not the case! This book is a lot more than simple "common sense". It's clear and comprehensive. It makes sense! even today. If you want to read something that speaks to a woman's soul, then read this book. It's timeless! It reminds me a bit of Pinkola Estes kind of writing, you have to read with spirit soul and

brain all together, both sides of your brain, right and left. If you are new to the topic be open, don't be harsh judging. And I am so happy about reading it that I want to read her other books, because I'm interested in Permaculture and that's the way to go... Starhawk is very very up to date! check her blogs and activities, her commitment to the Earth and you'll see what I mean.

My favorite book on this subject, of all, to date. More than a suitable read for a thoughtful, intelligent, responsible and fair introduction for one who wishes to broaden his/her understanding of the ancient philosophies that underwent so much persecution, suppression, fear and suffering by so many. It's also particularly relevant for the new practitioner including some get-your-toes-wet guidance and exercises for practice and crafting. I won't lie, it has a bit of feminist bent on occasion, however, considering the initial release was what, 38, nearly 40 years ago, it's more than understandable given what was going on back then. Gender equality plus the right for one to freely worship in their belief or what feels most natural and sincerely connecting have all advanced light years in the past 40 years in most parts of the world; of course, there's still ample room before we reach the point of needing to not have the discussion concerning human rights any longer. I didn't mean to digress - the point I am trying to make is that this is by far my favorite book on the subject and it's become my preferred reference and go-to-guide time and time again and it's more than a worthy and pertinent source, still.

Bought this for a great niece who wanted information on the practice of Wicca, and I know this to be the standard on the subject. It is like given a young woman *Our Bodies Our Selves* for her 18th birthday!

It's great? What can I say that hasn't already been said?

I am pretty sure this is widely known and popular already... I am a fan myself, too, now. I think this is a great book for the beginner to Paganism!!

So far I am enjoying this book.

Well, when I first read it in the throes of Gung-ho-ness and everything was fascinating, I liked it. It's not so shiny now that I'm back in a pragmatic mellow. I found a couple of the exercises useful but I don't use it much. Who knows, maybe I'll pick it up again someday and find more use in it. I feel it

would be somewhat more useful for a group. It has interesting tid bits, but I guess I just don't find the feminist slant very moving in my life at this point. Would have been more meaningful for me had I found it maybe six years sooner. Lol..But it's less an issue of meaningfulness more an issue that a lot of the exercises don't seem to enage me. I just work out a different approach.

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