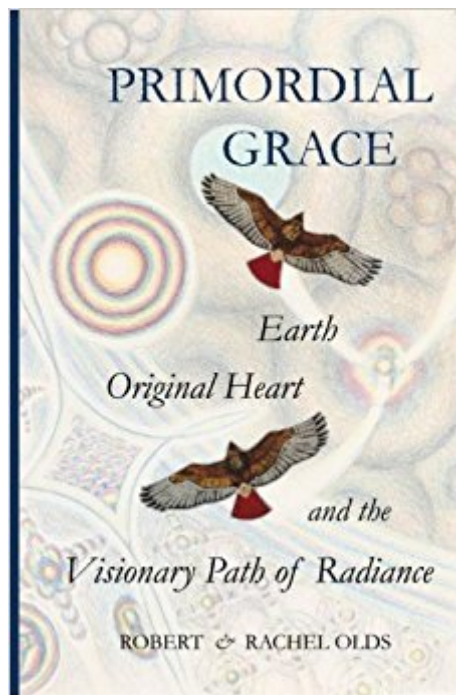




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Primordial Grace: Earth, Original Heart, And The Visionary Path Of Radiance



Synopsis

Primordial grace, the great perfection woven throughout the fabric of being, offers always a way home, in and through the natural radiance of the origin itself. The practices of opening to this sacred wholeness arose out of direct experience in the wilderness long before humans turned from the Earth and created structures of separation. Particularly now in these times of great upheaval brought on by human insistence on remaining apart from the natural world, we need to make a different choice by embracing the teachings that are all around us manifesting naturally as the vision that is this life, letting go of separation, reconnecting with the Earth, and acknowledging the radiant intent at the heart of all being. A guide for reuniting with this primordial path as a prayer for all life, Primordial Grace joins a greatly revised version of their previous work, Luminous Heart of the Earth, with the visionary path of radiance, providing a guide to the natural wholeness of the complete path. Primordial Grace is offered as a seed of hope. Within a seed is the energy to live and grow in the rubble of this age and reestablish human connection with the primordial grace of Earth, original heart, and radiance.

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Customer Reviews

Artists Robert and Rachel Olds spent nine years in spiritual retreat together integrating Earth living and the practices of primordial grace. They came to their retreat after years of spiritual inquiry through their artwork and years of letting go and simplifying their lives to connect more fully with the natural world. Through their books, they share their perspective from the completion of the visionary path of radiance to encourage recognition that this Earth, this vision we call life, is a sacred offering. They offer teachings of direct experience within the natural world for opening to original heart and

embracing the radiant expression we call life. Their books include Luminous Heart of Inner Radiance, Luminous Heart of the Earth, and Water Drawn before Sunrise.

This is a rare and valuable text. This unusual book takes the ultimate Dzogchen path of Tögal, arguably, the highest teachings of Tibetan Buddhism, and restores them to their primordial ground as the natural radiance and spontaneous intent of all of nature. Stripped of cultural templates and overlays, Tögal, becomes immediately accessible and intuitively obvious from our innate, original heart. The authors spent nine years in the wilderness practicing the teachings they had received and, through their own, direct experience moved through all four stages of the Tögal path. Their clear, unambiguous guidance of the practice and the process which is found in this book arises out of their own, direct experience. I have been studying Dzogchen for over twenty years and this book is the most helpful practice manual I have discovered or been given.

Beautiful, detailed, rare, thank you for a great gift

I feel tremendous gratitude toward those lamas, masters, and scholars who preserved the precious tögal teaching in its Himalayan context. Without them, it would likely have been lost to the world. But must tögal be tied to a Tibetan, Buddhist or Bon cultural framework? The experience of Robert and Rachel Olds, who completed a nine-year tögal retreat, says otherwise. In this book, Primordial Grace, tögal is liberated from its Tibetan Buddhist and Bon cultural presentations (and any accompanying feudal hierarchy) and given to us as a way that flows simply and freely out of our embodied human experience of the natural world. This is a tögal that stands on its own, for people who want to stand on their own experience, a way of letting things be as they are and seeing them self-resolve into the open spontaneity of the basic ground. This approach to tögal feels to me as if, rather than being something new for our current cultural situation, it is actually a rediscovery and recovery of a primal spiritual way. A tögal, if you will, as it was before it became burdened by an ever-elaborating conceptual and gradualist support, and subject to various sectarianisms. Such speculation belongs to me, however, so back to the book. Primordial Grace is a complete, unrestricted, guide to the way of tögal and its nonconceptual basis of opened and awakened Heart. It abandons Dzogchen jargon and is written in a contemporary English that conveys the authors' experience of the tögal way. I have found that it is possible to practice from this book alone, something Tibetan tögal texts don't generally support. This is a book of radiant openness, and the practice offered in it continues to be profoundly opening for me.

It is a living text, and I believe that even the mere reading of the book will precipitate spacious presence in those who are ready.

Very good books, Got them on time

I was profoundly touched by Primordial Grace. This book is a grace in itself. It is a radiant transmission of the deepest Truth made accessible to all who are called home to the Earth and to our original heart. The path of primordial grace contains a sacred teaching that has the power to transform all who are open to receiving it. In this time of increasing madness and destruction of our Mother Earth, this book serves as a bright light pointing the way back to our natural wholeness and its loving intent to welcome us all in an embrace of oneness and love.

With their physical eyes, the Olds saw classic seated Buddhas with topknots and yabyum imagery develop slowly in step-wise fashion over the course of years. Just like everyone else they saw the heads of the Buddhas develop first, followed by the bodies. Yet they present this path as nonbuddhist.

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