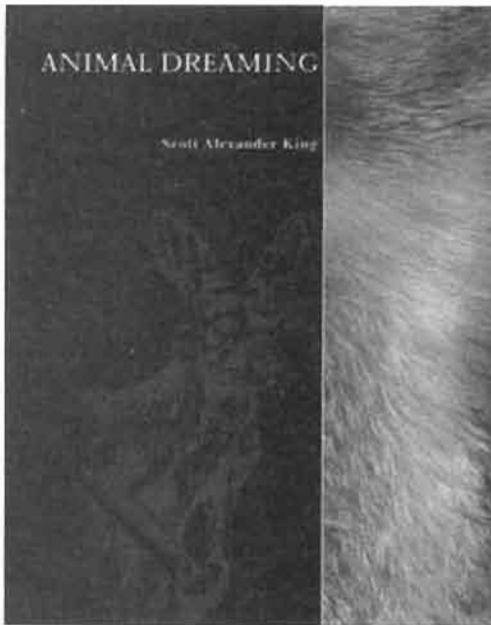




Animal Totem



Animal Dreaming
Listening with our eyes to the wisdom of Mother Earth
by Scott Alexander King



This planet is our Mother. We all refer to her as 'Mother Earth'. She has provided all that we have ever needed since time began. She has housed us,

fed us and healed us, as any good Mother would. If that were the case, surely then, it is safe to assume that we are all her kids - brothers and sisters of the one family?

Refer to book review pg 76.

Just as any good Mother would want her children to grow and reach their fullest potential, the Earth Mother is no different. She watches over us, cradles us and nourishes our soul. She listens to our prayers, cries with us in our times of need and picks us up when



we fall. She reaches out to us at every opportunity, just as any good Mother would do. The problem is that most of us have forgotten the ancient connection to our Mother. We have become disconnected and have isolated ourselves from her. We have pushed her away, and as a reaction, have taken to abusing her and treating her with contempt because we subconsciously believe we have been forsaken by

her. This belief is as far from the truth as it could possibly be. She is still there, waiting for us to return to her. She is waiting for us all to unite as one, to take a deep breath and come home.

Our Ancestors looked to the Earth Mother for everything they needed to live abundant, healthy lives. They turned to her when they were cold, and she taught them to use fire. They turned to her when they were hungry, and she taught them to sow crops and to hunt. They turned to her when they were lost, and she offered direction. They listened with their eyes to the acumen of the Earth Mother, for she was there without fail whenever they were in need, and she treated them all equally, for she loved them as one. The People sought direction by communing with the animals, the changing of the seasons and the waxing and waning of the moon. They knew their times of power and when to seek shelter and rest. Mother Earth teaches by example, and The People heeded her wisdom. They saw that the animals lived interconnected lives with one another and their environment. They noticed that without being educated in the 'whys or wherefores', the animals simply lived their lives to the richest of their means and took only what they required - no more, no less, and thus all things were kept in balance. The People integrated this wisdom into their own lives, and for the longest of whiles, they lived in harmony with the animals.

The People saw the hunt as a sacred act and celebrated each kill by painting images that captured their moment of glory in a mix of mud and animal's blood on the walls of their caves. They saw their caves as being safe, nurturing and warm. They noticed a similarity between the caves and the wombs of their women; between the fires they built within the caves and the masculine seed placed deep



within their women during the sacred act of joining. They noticed