

# World Druidry: A Globalizing Path of Nature Spirituality

by Larisa A. White

## BOOK REVIEWS



### SCHOLARLY REVIEWS:

"If anybody wants to know what modern Druidry is like, across the world at the present day, then this is the book which provides the answer. It is researched to rigorous standards of academic scholarship, while also allowing Druids to speak in their own many voices, unmediated. No other work brings out so clearly what they have in common, and what distinguishes them between groups and nations. It is an excellent achievement."

— **Ronald Hutton**, Professor of Divinity, Gresham College, U.K.  
Professor of History, University of Bristol, U.K.  
Author of *Blood and Mistletoe: The History of the Druids in Britain*

"*World Druidry* offers a fascinating and unrivaled survey of contemporary Druidry internationally. It is enlightening about attitudes and activities, clarifies dynamic frictions between individuality and community, and traces generational changes. Among many virtues, its inclusion of the many voices of diverse Druids will make this an invaluable resource for researchers and practitioners alike."

— **Graham Harvey**, Professor of Religious Studies, The Open University, UK  
Author of *Animism: Respecting the Living World*

"This is a fantastic resource showing the diversity of views and practices among Druids today. Larisa White's *World Druidry* survey has found Druids engaging with their environments in Europe, the US, Australia, South America and in many other locations with some surprising commonalities as well as differences. This volume is invaluable for anyone interested in finding out more about contemporary Druids."

— **Suzanne Owen**, Reader in Religious Studies, Leeds Trinity University

"*World Druidry* describes what Druids are like circa 2020. [...] It is one of the first major social scientific explorations of this new religious movement. A total of 725 Druids from 34 countries completed the questionnaire and 1500 pages of essay-question responses provided detailed information about their religious and spiritual practices. A mixed method analysis paints a vivid picture of the contemporary religious tradition that is Druidry. Independent scholar Larisa White, a practicing Druid, does an excellent job of analyzing this data set and interpreting its findings. [...] *World Druidry* is a well-researched and informative book that provides a valuable overview of contemporary Druidry. It is a valuable resource for anyone who wants to learn more about this fascinating spiritual approach, providing a wealth of information about Druid beliefs and practices. The inclusion of so many first-hand accounts of Druidic life gives readers a better understanding of this religious tradition." (See full review in [\*Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture Book Reviews: Volume 17, 2023-Open Access.\*](#))

— **Wayne Martin Mellinger, Ph.D.**, Independent Scholar

"This is an invaluable piece of work for scholars of modern Druidry specifically, and scholars of modern Paganism more broadly, among whom it deserves a broad readership." (See full review in *Nova Religio* (2022) 25 (3): 132–133.)

— **Ethan Doyle White**, Independent Scholar

## REVIEWS BY DRUID COMMUNITY LEADERS:

"With this book, the written history of Druidry has now entered a fourth stage. The first stage were the writings of antiquity. The second, the personal writings of the Druid pioneers of the late 20th / early 21st Century such as Carr-Gomm, Shallcrass and Restall-Orr. The third, the academic histories of the Druids as revealed by the likes of Hutton et al. Now we have a book which, for me, is probably the most important Druid book in the last 10 years. [...] Using questions formulated in conjunction with many leading Druid figures, Larisa A White delves into the "what, how and why" of the Druidry practised by modern day Druids from around the World."

— **Neil Pitchford**, Trustee, The Druid Network,  
Vice-Moderator, Faith Communities Forum, Inter-Faith Network

"If you've ever wondered what modern Druids believe and what they get up to inspired by their beliefs, then this book is a must for you. It had already created quite a buzz in the Druid community prior to its publication and it not only lives up to expectations but exceeds them. [...] Nothing like it has been attempted before and it will undoubtedly stand as a definitive work for years to come, informing current researchers and hopefully inspiring further research on its subject as well as providing unprecedented insights for the general reader. [...] The hardback is a thing of genuine beauty. The attractive, dark blue dust jacket is printed on a high quality paper that feels like velvet while the book inside is fully cloth-bound in a matching shade of blue. It's a joy to handle, the text clear and readable, the photographs well-chosen and clearly reproduced. In bringing together such a wealth of information and presenting it with such crystal clarity, Larisa A. White has done a great service to the Druid community [...] I therefore wholeheartedly and unreservedly recommend this unique and fascinating book."

— **Philip Shallcrass**, Founder of the British Druid Order

"Fascinating Research. Here we have the first worldwide survey of Druidry as a contemporary spirituality followed by thousands of people on all continents. Larisa White's detailed analysis of her survey, which was completed by 725 in six languages from 34 countries, offers a fascinating insight into a spiritual, and for some, religious approach that is set to become increasingly significant as we struggle to preserve the ecological integrity of the Earth. Highly recommended!"

— **Philip Carr-Gomm**, Chosen Chief of the Order of Bards, Ovates, and Druids

"I highly recommend this book to anyone who wants to know more about today's Druids: who they are, what they believe, and what they practice. Anyone who is considering taking up a form of Druid practice will also find this book of value. It fleshes out the bare-bones information available on the websites of Druid groups with rich tales about what today's Druids actually believe and do. [...] It is the best description of contemporary Druid practice available. Finally, I strongly recommend the book to theologians as a contribution to contemporary religious theologies outside of the major world religions."

— **Claire L. Schlosser**, Archdruid of Water for the Ancient Order of Druids in America

"Whatever the future holds for humankind, it will be the same future for all in Nature. This book explains how ordinary people with new perspectives are both caring for and working with Nature and all its denizens as we live our lives and face that future together. When you read this book, you will find not just a new way of thinking, living and believing but also true hope, for us and for all in the Natural World. I cannot recommend this outstanding book too highly."

— **Malcolm Brown**, Founder of the Isle of Wight Order of Druids