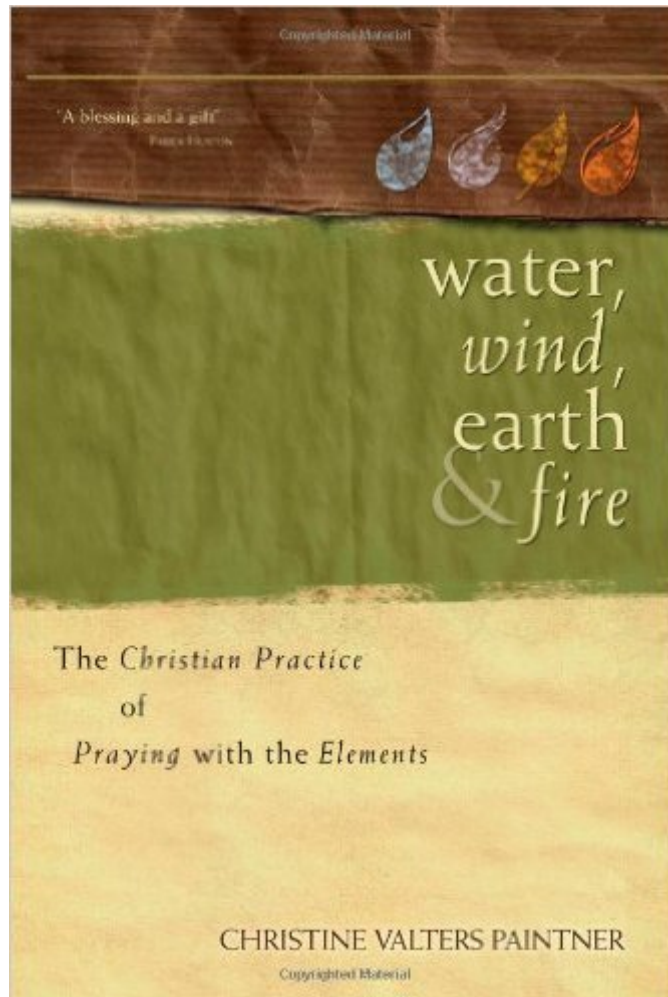


The book was found

# Water, Wind, Earth & Fire: The Christian Practice Of Praying With The Elements



## Synopsis

Organized around 'The Canticle of the Creatures' by St Francis of Assisi, this book considers the ways in which praying with the natural elements can enliven Christian spiritual life.

## Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Sorin Books; 40501st edition (March 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1933495227

ISBN-13: 978-1933495224

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #27,222 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Meditations](#) #44 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Prayer](#) #86 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Worship & Devotion > Meditations](#)

## Customer Reviews

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that St. Francis of Assisi's "Canticle of the Creatures" (also known as the "Canticle of the Sun") is a powerful and poetic evocation of God's presence in the elements of nature. But few Christians, in my experience, seem to draw the connection that if the elements are indeed agents of God's blessings and means by which we can offer blessing and worship back to God, then it might make sense to think in terms of "air prayer," "water prayer," and so forth. This is the simple yet powerful premise of this lovely new book from Christine Valter Paintner, a Benedictine Oblate and the founder of the *Abbey of the Arts* website which explores the connection between spirituality and creativity. Some readers may wonder if this is a crypto-Wiccan book, and indeed anyone interested in creative cross-fertilization between Neopaganism and Christian spirituality will find much to explore in this book. But let's be clear: the four elements (air, fire, water and earth) are universal energies, since they are grounded not only in the nature of the earth, but indeed in our very bodies (think of it: your skeleton and flesh are earth, your blood is water, your lungs and breath bring you air, and the very heat your body generates is the fire within you). Historically speaking, knowledge of the four elements and exploration of their spiritual meaning can be traced back to Greece, where Plato speaks of the elements, following the earlier

Sicilian philosopher Empedocles. In other words, our earliest knowledge of the elements is not occult or magical, but rather philosophical and scientific, in scope.

In her book *Water, Wind, Earth and Fire*, author and contemplative artist Christine Valters Paintner explores the four natural elements named in the title and traditionally associated with ancient philosophies and nature-based religions. Paintner examines each element in turn as a metaphor for the myriad ways spiritual seekers can learn to connect with the divine matrix and unfathomable mysteries which fill the earth we walk upon. Hence, this book is primarily about learning to see. Within its pages we are offered new ways of looking at the world. Instead of seeing only the superficial and obvious, Paintner teaches us to look lovingly into the depths of a shimmering world which is constantly shifting and changing. The rhythms and cycles of nature are a recurring theme throughout this book. Indeed, a major component of the contemplative work in which Paintner engages incorporates a deep resonance and response to these ever-changing rhythms--the cycles of our days and nights, weeks and months, seasons, and even our very breaths. In this way, the author shares her understanding of a world filled with the rising and falling of a never-ending, eternal dance of love and loss, pain and pleasure, desire and absence--both poles pointing to the dynamic tensions which underlie our daily existence, including that between our inner spiritual journey and the outer landscapes we inhabit. She teaches us to read the natural world as a sacred text which, if we learn to discern its subtle movements, may reveal itself to us as the source of Divine Mystery. While her interpretive lens is primarily Christian based, its roots lie deeper than any single tradition.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Water, Wind, Earth & Fire: The Christian Practice of Praying with the Elements  
Fire Stick: The Ultimate Fire TV Stick User Guide - Start Using Fire TV Stick Like A Pro! (Streaming Devices, How To Use Fire Stick, Fire TV Stick User Guide)  
7" Fire & Fire HD User Guide: From Beginner To Expert Guide - Everything You Need to Know About 's New Fire Tablets! ( 7" Fire, Fire HD User Guide)  
Meditations on the Goddess, vol. 3 - Gaia and the elements of fire, water, air and earth  
Wind Power Basics: The Ultimate Guide to Wind Energy Systems and Wind Generators for Homes  
Cash in the Wind: How to Build a Wind Farm using Skystream and 442SR Wind Turbines for Home Power  
Energy Net-Metering and Sell Electricity Back to the Grid  
Fruit Infused Water: 80 Vitamin Water Recipes for Weight Loss, Health and Detox Cleanse (Vitamin Water, Fruit Infused Water, Natural Herbal Remedies, Detox Diet, Liver Cleanse)  
Fire Stick: The Ultimate Guide With Instructions To Unlock The True Potential Of Your Fire Stick (Streaming Devices, Fire TV Stick User Guide, How To Use Fire Stick)  
Fire Stick: The Complete User Manual To Starting With And

Using Fire TV Stick, Plus Little-Known Tips And Tricks! (Streaming, How To Use Fire Stick, Fire TV Stick User Guide) Fire Stick: How To Unlock The True Potential Of Your Fire Stick - Plus Amazing Tips And Tricks! (Streaming Devices, Fire TV Stick User Guide, How To Use Fire Stick) Fire Stick: For Beginners! - Learn How To Start Using Your Fire Stick Now! (Streaming Devices, Fire TV Stick User Guide, How To Use Fire Stick) Fire TV User Guide: Watch TV Shows, Movies, Music, Apps, Games And Learn 7 Amazing Things About Fire TV! ( Fire TV User Guide, Streaming, Fire TV Manual) Fire Stick: Fire TV Stick Made Easy - The Ultimate Step-By-Step User Guide To Mastering Your Fire Stick In Less Than A Day! (How To Use ... Fire TV Stick User Guide, Streaming) Fire Stick: How to Start Using Fire Stick Like A Pro! - The Ultimate Guide to Master Your Fire Stick In Just 30 Minutes! (Streaming Devices, ... TV Stick User Guide, How To Use Fire Stick) Fire Stick: The Ultimate Fire Stick User Guide - Learn How To Start Using Fire Stick, Plus Little-Known Tips And Tricks! (Streaming ... TV Stick User Guide, How To Use Fire Stick) Fire Stick: The Complete Beginners Guide - Learn How To Setup And Master Your Fire Stick Today! (Streaming Devices, Fire TV Stick User Guide, How To Use Fire Stick) Fire Stick: The Ultimate Fire Stick User Guide To TV, Movies, Apps, Games & Much More! Plus Advanced Tips And Tricks! (Streaming Devices, Fire TV Stick User Guide, How To Use Fire Stick) Fire Stick: The Complete 2016 User Guide And Manual - How To Easily Install Android Apps On Your Fire Stick (Streaming Devices, Fire TV Stick User Guide, How To Use Fire Stick) Fire Stick: The Complete Fire Stick User Guide - Learn How To Install Apps, Games, Watch TV And Movies! (Streaming Devices, Fire TV Stick User Guide, How To Use Fire Stick) Fire Stick: The Ultimate User Guide To Starting With And Using Fire TV Stick (How To Use Fire Stick, Fire TV Stick User Guide, Streaming)

[Dmca](#)