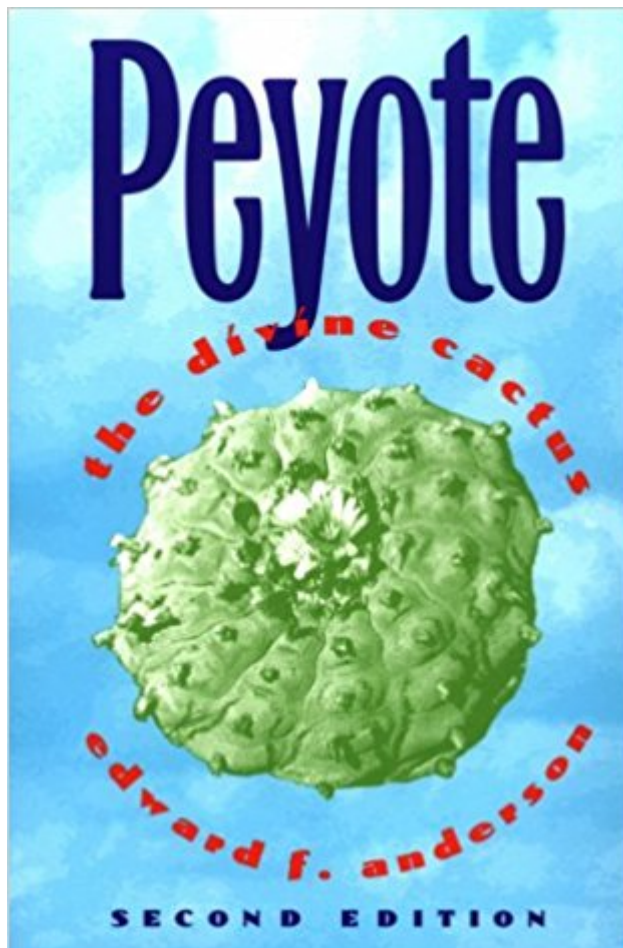


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Peyote: The Divine Cactus



Synopsis

Dry whiskey, Divine herb, Devil's root, Medicine of God, Peyote: for some people, to use it is to hear colors and see sounds. For many Native Americans, it brings an ability to reach out of their physical lives, to communicate with the spirits, and to become complete. For chemists, pharmacologists, and psychiatrists, the plant is fascinating in its complexity and in the ways its chemicals work upon the human mind. What is it in peyote that causes such unusual effects? Can modern medical science learn anything from Native Americans' use of peyote in curing a wide variety of ailments? What is the Native American Church, and how do its members use peyote? Does anyone have the legal right to use drugs or controlled substances in religious ceremonies? Within this volume are answers to these and dozens of other questions surrounding the controversial and remarkable cactus. Greatly expanded and brought up-to-date from the 1980 edition, these pages describe peyote ceremonies and the users' experiences, and also cover the many scientific and legal aspects of using the plant. Well written, informative, comprehensive, and enlightening, the book will be welcomed by counselors, anthropologists, historians, physicians, chemists, lawyers, and observers of the contemporary drug scene, as well as by interested general readers.

Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: University of Arizona Press; 2 edition (September 1, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0816516545

ISBN-13: 978-0816516544

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.8 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,284,746 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #71 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Plants > Cacti & Succulents #419 in Books > History > World > Religious > Ethnic & Tribal #437 in Books > History > Americas > Canada > First Nations

Customer Reviews

"Drugs have had an extraordinary impact on contemporary life in this country. . . . No other social problem has generated so much debate and controversy. No other area of public policy formulation is so riddled with half-truths and false information. Edward Anderson's book fills a gap that

needed to be filled."•Journal of Psychoactive Drugs "This book will certainly contribute to a better understanding and respect for this substance."•Drug Survival News "Especially admirable [are] its relatively objective tone and the breadth of its learning. . . . a tour de force of interdisciplinary scholarship."•Arizona and the West "Each chapter is extremely informative and enlightening. . . . [The book exhibits] deep sensitivity and understanding . . . for the plight of the Mexican and American Indians in their desire to use peyote in the face of the white man's prohibitions against it."•Street Pharmacologist"

Dry whiskey, Divine herb, Devilas root, Medicine of God, Peyote: for some people, to use it is to hear colors and see sounds. For many Native Americans, it brings an ability to reach out of their physical lives, to communicate with the spirits, and to become complete. For chemists, pharmacologists, and psychiatrists, the plant is fascinating in its complexity and in the ways its chemicals work upon the human mind. What is it in peyote that causes such unusual effects? Can modern medical science learn anything from Native Americansa use of peyote in curing a wide variety of ailments? What is the Native American Church, and how do its members use peyote? Does anyone have the legal right to use drugs or controlled substances in religious ceremonies? Within this volume are answers to these and dozens of other questions surrounding the controversial and remarkable cactus. Greatly expanded and brought up-to-date from the 1980 edition, these pages describe peyote ceremonies and the usersa experiences, and also cover the many scientific and legal aspects of using the plant. Well written, informative, comprehensive, and enlightening, the book will be welcomed by counselors, anthropologists, historians, physicians, chemists, lawyers, and observers of the contemporary drug scene, as well as by interested general readers.

I would of given this a 5 star rating but , as with all of the books I enjoy , It ended too soon . It gives a good overview of the cactui's history to present times . It's use by the Native American Church Is presented well , the author having attended . He does an understandable account of the plant and its chemistry . I have only high school Chem classes and was able to follow . Enjoyed the book and recomend it . Lee .

Reads like a text book. Covers everything you could possibly want to know about Father Peyote. From its origins in Mexico to its use in the U.S., from ceremonies to experience and medicinal use. It even covers pharmacoligical, chemistry and botanical aspects as well as legal history. This book will

remain in my collection indefinitely.

liked this book it had a lot of information and was written in a good style. I'd recommend it to anyone interested in peyote.

Good info, but reads like a textbook. Tons of references to other works and papers.

This book is very informative. It covers everything about the Peyote cactus: biology, propagation, history etc. A must have for anyone interested in this species of cacti. The book arrived in a timely manner and was in great condition.

Over the past week or so, I read or skimmed a bunch of books on Peyote. This one was the best. It covers a wide range of issues: from user's experiences to history to plant attributes and qualities. Peyote is an amazing plant. In fact, as you read more, it's hard not to think of it as a divine plant (well, I suppose all plants and beings have spirit, at least from a peyoteist perspective, but this one is especially soulful). It's very worthy of further study. The only downside to this book, is (as one would expect from a university press) a bit on the academic side. Some of it is a bit on the dry side; still the best book on the topic I came across. So anyone interested in peyote should start here.

This has to be the best book written on the cultural background and use of this amazing little plant. Explains in depth the variations between ceremonies depending on the tribe. I only wish Anderson put as much effort into his studies of this plant so that his information wouldn't be so lagging and incorrect when describing the species. Learn more about this little plant at [MagiCactus dot com](http://MagiCactus.com). Happy Growing

The most complete authority on the peyote cactus, *Lophophora williamsii*. E. Anderson includes every aspect of peyote-history and religious uses to ethnobotanical, phytochemistry and pharmacology. For anyone interested in learning all aspects of this mystifying plant, *Peyote: The Divine Cactus*, will allow just that.

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