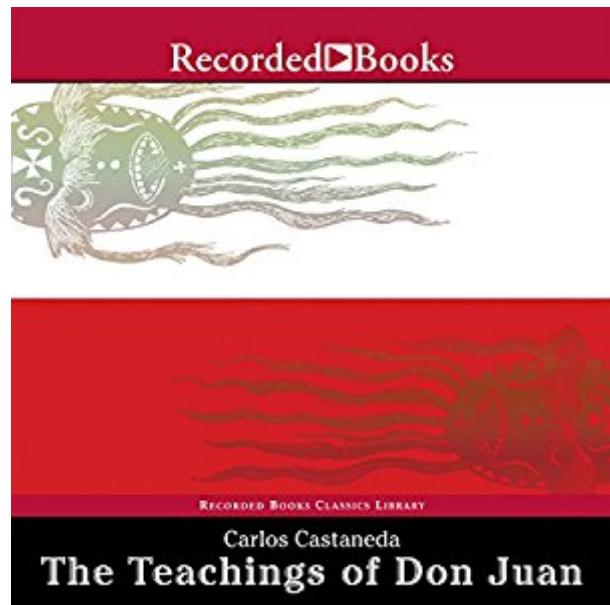


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The Teachings Of Don Juan: A Yaqui Way Of Knowledge



Synopsis

For over 40 years, Carlos Castanedaâ™s The Teachings of Don Juan has inspired audiences to expand their world view beyond traditional Western forms. Originally published as Castanedaâ™s masterâ™s thesis in anthropology, Teachings documents Castanedaâ™s supposed apprenticeship with a Yaqui Indian sorcerer, don Juan Matus. Dividing the work into two sections, Castaneda begins by describing don Juanâ™s philosophies, then continues with his own reflections. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The Teachings of Don Juan" is the first in a series of about 15 books by Carlos Casaneda describing the author's experiences with Yaqui Indian shamanism in Northern Mexico. As a studier of religion for many years (although not as knowledgeable as some scholars) I find these books to be utterly unique in their scope and subject matter. They are not like other New Age books. The journey that Castaneda takes his readers is mind-boggling, and his experiences are simply beyond what most people have even remotely encountered. Castaneda first met Don Juan in the early 60's, before the hippy movement, before psychedelic drugs became popular. He was studying anthropology in Los Angeles, and Don Juan served as a field source for some fading knowledge of tribal and shamanistic rituals in Northern Mexico. Castaneda was specifically interested in peyote, a plant that gives its users hallucinations and mixes the senses in strange ways, and which LSD was meant to be a chemical reproduction of. Castaneda's first book presents a very detailed scholastic

interpretation of his experiences. All books after the first simply focus on Castaneda's experiences with Don Juan. Castaneda's drug experiences are different from other accounts I have read, because they are intimately tied with the Yaqui philosophy and mythology. The drugs only serve as a means to an end, not as the end in themselves. The first 2 books in the series describe Castaneda's drug experiences with Don Juan, but from the 3rd book on, the drugs disappear forever and Carlos' experiences are actually more fantastic, more amazing, more unbelievable as he slowly becomes a practicing sorceror, traveling to alternate dimensions and battling other sorcerors.

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