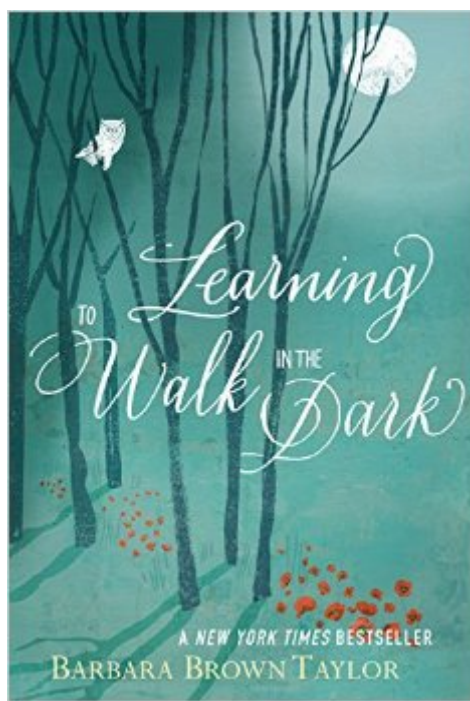# Learning To Walk In The Dark

Synopsis

New York Times BestsellerFrom the New York Times bestselling author of An Altar in the World, Barbara Brown Taylorâ ™s Learning to Walk in the Dark provides a way to find spirituality in those times when we donâ ™t have all the answers.Taylor has become increasingly uncomfortable with our tendency to associate all that is good with lightness and all that is evil and dangerous with darkness. Doesnâ ™t God work in the nighttime as well? In Learning to Walk in the Dark, Taylor asks us to put aside our fears and anxieties and to explore all that God has to teach us â œin the dark.â • She argues that we need to move away from our â œsolar spiritualityâ • and ease our way into appreciating â œlunar spiritualityâ • (since, like the moon, our experience of the light waxes and wanes). Through darkness we find courage, we understand the world in new ways, and we feel Godâ ™s presence around us, guiding us through things seen and unseen. Often, it is while we are in the dark that we grow the most.With her characteristic charm and literary wisdom, Taylor is our guide through a spirituality of the nighttime, teaching us how to find our footing in times of uncertainty and giving us strength and hope to face all of lifeâ ™s challenging moments.

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: HarperOne; Reprint edition (March 24, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0062024345

ISBN-13: 978-0062024343

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 0.5 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (491 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #7,695 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #64 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Self Help   #68 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Personal Growth   #73 inÂ Books > Self-Help > Spiritual

Customer Reviews

Bishop John Shelby Spong and the Reverend Barbara Brown Taylor, my two favorite members of the clergy, to me are the yin and yang of all things spiritual. Bishop Spong, with all the fervor of an Old Testament prophet, blasts the Christian fundamentalists with all their craziness in a heartbeat;-- I love him for that--- Barbara Brown Taylor, on the other hand, always leaves me feeling as if she may have almost as many questions about what it is all about as I do. And for that I love her just as

much if not more. Now she has written yet another thoughtful and thought-provoking book LEARNING TO WALK IN THE DARK. Her premise is simple: contrary to what we have been taught, darkness is as good and just as important as light and we should explore that darkness on every level. She says her book is not a "how-to" book, that it is essentially her journal and "may be a book about living with loss."Taylor lets us share her experiences with darkness: a summer night job as a cocktail waitress at Dante's Down the Hatch in Underground Atlanta before and between her school years as a seminary student, a visit to a cave in West Virginia, a trip to Atlanta where she participated in a "Dialogue in the Dark," when she experienced what it was like to be blind, a night spent with only her dog Dancer in a twelve by twelve-foot cabin in the woods with no power where she was not hampered by artificial light, a visit to higher ground to view the last full moonrise of the year. Then there is a chapter entitled "The Dark Night of the Soul," which might just be the best chapter of all. (This "cloudy evening of the soul" that Barbara wrestles with is a little like what the great poet Emily Dickinson, herself no stranger to darkness, might call her "hour of lead.

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