



New Memoir Is a Story of Religious Wounding and Spiritual Healing

Still on Fire *Field Notes from a Queer Mystic*

Still on Fire is another visionary book from thought leader Jan Phillips, an evolutionary work that connects spiritual consciousness with global action. A prophetic work of prose, prayer, and poetry.—Deepak Chopra, MD

UNITY VILLAGE, Mo.—Unity Books is pleased to announce the October 2021 release of *Still on Fire: Field Notes from a Queer Mystic* by Jan Phillips. *Still on Fire* is a memoir of religious wounding and spiritual healing, of judgment and forgiveness, and of social activism in a world that is in our hands.

Author Jan Phillips was a devoted Catholic who wanted nothing more than to be a nun and who joyously entered the convent at 18. Two years later, she was dismissed for “a disposition unsuited to religious life, with excessive and exclusive friendships.”

She was lesbian. She had always known it. “It was being homosexual that made me want to kill myself [at 12],” she writes. “As far as I knew, there was nothing worse than being queer. They were perverts, sinners, hated by God, hated by just about everyone. Lezzies, bull dykes, fags, queers, lesbos—all damned, and there I was, one of them.”

Phillips tells the sometimes heartbreaking story of her life with compassion and humor, while also sharing her poetry, songs, and photos along the way. Over the years, she created a life of love, service, community, and prayer. She evolved her understanding of God and came to see herself—and all of us—as the light of the world. “Had I not been born gay ... my heart would not have broken in half, would not have opened itself to Love Supreme, would not have been tenderized by life’s bitter pounding.”

Phillips traveled the globe on a one-woman peace pilgrimage, raised the consciousness of women, faced her privilege on a trip to India, and is working today to dismantle structural racism. Her Livingkindness Foundation supports schoolchildren in Nigeria. “Any spirituality that does not bring about more justice, more social awareness, more right action in the world is a lame and impotent excuse for faith ... My action for justice is my spirituality.”



Jan Phillips is the author of 10 other books, including *No Ordinary Time* (Livingkindness Foundation, 2011), *Marry Your Muse* (Quest Books, 1997), *Divining the Body* (SkyLight Paths, 2005), *There Are Burning Bushes Everywhere* (Livingkindness Foundation, 2016), *Born Gay* (JP Communications, 1996), and *Finding the On-Ramp to Your Spiritual Path* (Quest Books, 2013). Her books have been endorsed by Gloria Steinem, Deepak Chopra, Bishop John Shelby Spong, Richard Rohr, Jean Houston, and Ervin Laszlo.

Still on Fire (softcover) will be available for purchase online at shop.unityonline.org.

About Unity Books

For more than 100 years, Unity Books has published prominent authors in New Thought, spirituality, mind-body-spirit, and personal growth. Unity Books was awarded the Nautilus Books Award “Best of Small Press” for *Stations of the Cosmic Christ* in 2018. Unity Books is headquartered at Unity Village outside Kansas City, Missouri.

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