

Author Interview with Kerrie Redgate

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Getting to know the Authors of

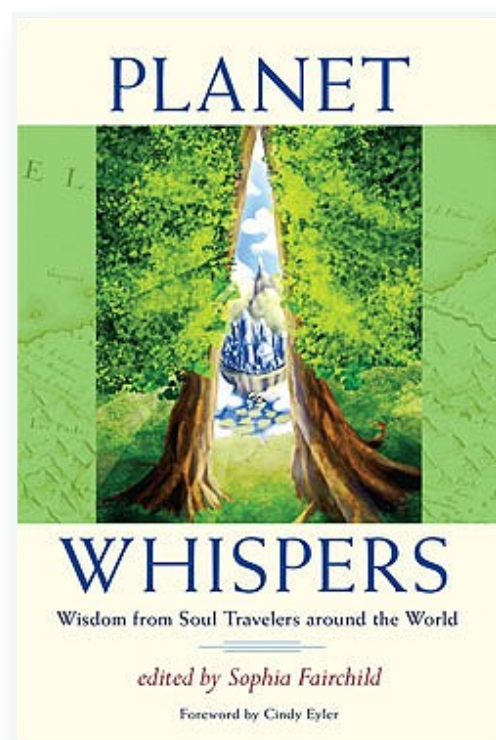
Planet Whispers:
Wisdom from Soul Travelers
around the World

Editor: Sophia Fairchild

Kerrie Redgate – Australia

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SWP: Tell us a bit about your background.

KR: I began as a rock singer in my 20s, after a prolific period of song-writing as a young teenager. This also generated a great deal of experience in other fields due to the necessity to pay rent! I became a photographer in an Old-Time photographic studio; a makeup artist; a sales rep for metaphysical books, and for health foods; etc. I found my way to Flower Essences and Reiki, eventually becoming a Reiki teacher. But astrology had drawn me from a very early age, as did the Buddha, even though I had been raised a Catholic. I was also intrigued by the idea of reincarnation as I'd had very clear recall, as a small child, of snippets from especially my last incarnation. At seven, I'd made a pledge to myself to prove the reality of reincarnation. I think I have done that now.

SWP: What brings you the greatest joy in life?

KR: Seeing students and clients "get it", when their faces light up and you can see their Spirit coming through.

SWP: What are you most proud of accomplishing so far in your life?

KR: I'm proud of my work in unveiling the links behind astrology and consciousness by being able to correlate it directly with Yogacara Buddhist psychology, and to brain function generally; as well as developing a highly practical system of life-purpose astrology for the 21st century.

SWP: When and why did you begin writing?

KR: I was an “only-child” for my first ten years before my brother was born. So I spent a lot of time alone. Writing was a spontaneous thing. I am a creative Leo; have a Virgo Midheaven; and my Mercury and Uranus are together (good for channeling!) in Cancer, an imaginative sign, so I wrote my first poem at age 6, started my first novel at age ten, and had a collection of exercise books for Poetry, Short Stories, and my only Play. By age 15 I was playing guitar and composing songs with lyrics. I probably used to “channel” a fair bit! The words just poured out of me. My writing now is basically a vehicle for communicating my research, but at the same time I am hoping to inspire people to find their compassion and inherent wisdom... But I do have a screenplay inside me!

SWP: What inspired you to write your chapter for Planet Whispers?

KR: I wanted to communicate the metaphysical effects and opportunities of travel, to expand the reader’s concept of time and place.

SWP: Have you developed a specific writing style?

KR: Writing is an extremely interesting journey in itself. I began an enormous book (still unfinished!) about my astrological research in 1998, and I am now so glad I did not publish that book a year later! My writing style has dramatically improved over the past thirteen years. In the beginning, a writer may tend to focus more on the ideas than the actual emotional effect the words may bring to a reader. I am a great deal freer now in my use of words, with the way I play with them – but I know this is still just the beginning!

SWP: Have you ever had writer's block? If so, what do you do about it?

KR: I wouldn't call it "writer's block" as much as a "crossroads of ideas and purpose" where a stall means I have to very clearly define, in my head, my goal for the paragraph or chapter I am trying to form. Sometimes the words just don't come because there is an idea snaking its way up to consciousness. And you know when that idea has arrived! It bites the top of your head and you know you have it!

SWP: What are your thoughts on being part of this anthology of writers?

KR: It has been a great privilege to be a part of such a wonderful project. The diversity of styles and experiences makes this such an interesting book. Also, in this present era of Pluto in Capricorn, I think people are so busy that they appreciate being able to read one inspirational chapter at one time when they need a boost. It's a book to dip into and keep beside the bed.

SWP: What was the hardest part about writing this chapter?

KR: Having to introduce technical astrological ideas to explain the phenomena of our consciousness adequately. It is quite a task to not lose the reader once the emotional content is disturbed by factual information. I have always found this challenging, and hope the reader will sit with me through those paragraphs! The second thing I always find difficult is a word-count restriction, which is most necessary for an anthology. Even as a child at school, I was handing in essays that were three or four times longer than any other student!

SWP: Is there a message in your chapter that you want your readers to grasp?

KR: I would really like to inspire people to become more sensitive to the subtle feelings that are molding their behavior, especially during travel to foreign lands. Though, every moment of our lives is significant, has meaning for us. The brain is recording everything, and we create our future in the present. Travel is such a marvelous opportunity to learn more about ourselves and to find the treasure within.

SWP: Have you ever considered anyone as a mentor?

KR: Garry Wiseman, my second and main astrology teacher, in 1986-7, was a mentor for most of us in his classes. He really does live up to his name. He helped me a great deal and threw me in the deep end by having me teach some of his beginners' classes, which was very generous of him and very trusting! It was a time when my Leo ego was going through a vast remolding process! So those years were the most challenging and fruitful for me.

SWP: Can we expect any new writing from you in the future?

KR: Yes, I have a series of books in the works, as I am going to slice up the enormous 700-page tome I have almost completed, to make the information more manageable. Unlike a novel, a non-fiction book must be kept current, so this is the easiest way, I think. The working title for my main book is Astrology and the Seventh Veil. I'm covering a lot of ground, specializing in understanding self-sabotage in the deeper layers of mind, and assisting the pursuit of inspired life-purpose. There is a general synopsis on my website.

SWP: Do you have any advice for writers?

KR: Believe in yourself and in your ideas. You are unique. Not everyone is going to agree with you. That's the point of writing! The reader is looking for new ideas, new challenges to her old way of seeing the world. Every reader is a traveler.

SWP: If you could leave your readers with one bit of wisdom, what would that be?

KR: The world reacts to you as you see the world. People are going to disappoint you and delightfully surprise you. Don't be moved too much by either. Travel allows us to see the world through the eyes of innocence, if we question our expectations. The challenge is to move through the world, every day, as an intrepid traveler – no matter where we are.

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