



Courting the Wild Twin

Martin Shaw

\$19.95 USD • \$26.95 CAD • £14.99 GBP

Hardcover • 5 × 7.75 • 128 pages

Black-and-white illustrations

ISBN 978-1-60358-950-5

On-Sale Date: March 11, 2020

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“Shaw is a master tale-slinger. . . with pirate brilliance.”

—**DAVID ABRAM**, author of *The Spell of the Sensuous*

From one of the great modern storytellers comes a book of literary activism

C*ourting the Wild Twin* is a challenge to think boldly, wildly, and in new ways about ourselves—both as individuals and as a collective. It asks us to learn to listen to myths again, to speak through stories, and in doing so, upend the shallow thinking that typifies our age. Stories are our secret weapon, and they might just save us.

Dr. Martin Shaw dissects two ancient European myths that concern a wild twin, a metaphor for the part of ourselves that we generally shun or ignore in order to conform to societal norms, but which houses much of our vital energy. Shaw invites us on a quest to rediscover our wild twin as a way of restoring our agency and ability to confront modern challenges with purpose, courage and creativity.

“I think of myth as a wild way of expressing deep truths,” said Shaw in a recent interview with *The Irish Times*. “The problem I find in myself and others is that we are so hooked into a mode of devouring these days, that we often go out into nature to use it as a fixative, a pretty backdrop, rather than endeavouring to have a real discourse with it. We are clearly in a trance state, and while myth can’t automatically break this, it can help lead us back into connection with the earth—if we allow it.”

To request a review copy or author interview, please contact: Christina Butt (802) 295-6300 ext. 127, or cbutt@chelseagreen.com

Author Availability: United Kingdom, or by phone or arrangement



Martin Shaw, PhD, is an acclaimed scholar of myth and author of the award-winning *Mythteller* trilogy. Creator of the Oral Tradition and Mythic Life courses at Stanford University, he is also director of the West-country School of Myth in the UK. Shaw has been a wilderness rites of passage guide for twenty years.

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