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STANDING IN THE LIGHT

My Life as a Pantheist

SHARMAN APT RUSSELL

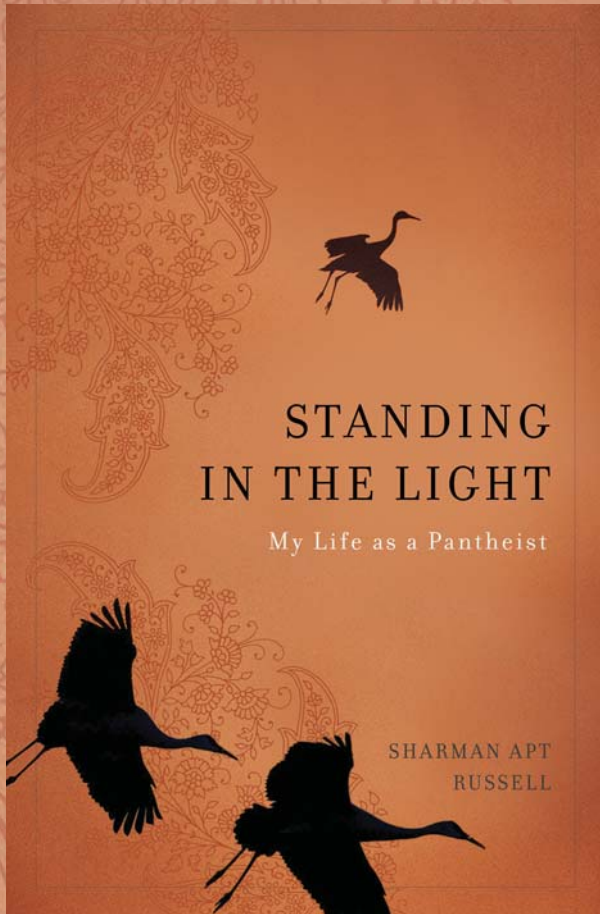
A prize-winning natural science writer meditates on the history and meaning of pantheism

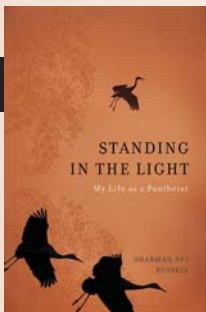
"Everything is connected, and the web is holy." So wrote Marcus Aurelius, the starting point of Sharman Apt Russell's wise and haunting new memoir about her life as a pantheist. Perhaps no other religious philosophy is as simple and inclusive as pantheism—what is, right now, is divine; there is no god apart from the universe itself. In *Standing in the Light*, Russell explores the history of this tradition from the Stoic philosophers to the Transcendentalists while reflecting on her own life during a year spent in the mountains and desert of southwestern New Mexico.

With a humane heart, an inquisitive mind, and luminescent prose, Russell invites skeptics, scientists, and seekers everywhere to join her in her exploration of the soul of pantheism.

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SHARMAN APT RUSSELL

SHARMAN APT RUSSELL is the author of several books, including *Hunger* and *Songs of the Fluteplayer*, which won the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Award. She has written for publications including *Discover* and *Nature Conservancy*, and currently contributes to *OnEarth*, the magazine for the National Resource Defense Council. Russell teaches creative writing at Western New Mexico University and at Antioch University in Los Angeles, California. She lives in Silver City, New Mexico.

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