



Module 21
Animal Totem & Devic
Connections Meditations

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- Connect,
- · Call in Sacred Space,
- Call on Priestess Oversoul,
- Open to Receive



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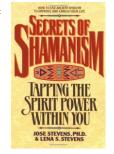


The shaman's power is directly related to their totems or in other words, their animal allies. The greater the totems, the stronger their power animals, the more influential they are. To a shaman, a human being is not better or more aware than an animal. Even though humans largely depend on animals for their source of food, animals, like rocks, have powerful sprits, each with their own talents and are uniquely qualified to assist people in specific areas. The shaman's relationship with animals is a mutually beneficial one. The shaman offers the spirit animal respect and devotion while the animal offers guidance and assistance with a great many tasks beyond the shaman's personal abilities. One of the chief gifts that power animals offers its optication and guardianship to the shaman during arduous tasks. Animal allies may be used to help find lost objects, mediate problematic relationships and in general, assist in the achievement of a challenging goal. Now each power animal has a specialty. So the shaman may need to consult with several if a problem has a variety of aspects to it. The hawk is good at seeing things from afar while the fox is known for its intelligence and cunning

Generally speaking, power animals are wild animals, not domestic ones. Shamans feel that domesticated animals have lost their power in large part. They serve people in more physical ways than spiritually.

For the shaman, physical animals are just the outward form of the great Spirit of that animal species. So the animal totem or animal ally is THE BEAR not this bear or that bear. Even so, the outward form of the bear spirit may be revered and honored.

If you don't have a relationship with the power animal or have lost yours through neglect, the shaman would say you are very vulnerable and in a weak position. You have lost touch with your own animal nature.

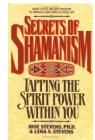


How do shamans find their power animals in order to gain mastery?

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First of all they do not select an animal and then go about establishing a relationship with it. The contact is made in reverse. The spirit of the animal selects the shaman. Historically, if a shaman survived the attack of a wild animal, it was felt that that animal was actually the shaman's totem spirit, testing him or her for strength and endurance. The animal demanded a sacrifice through the wounding. The shaman proved his or her dedication and capacity to handle the power of the guardian animal

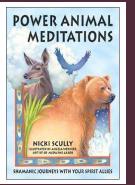
Not all power animals come to the shaman in this dramatic fashion. However, typically, shamans discover their power animals by allowing them to emerge through a spontaneous dance or by seeing the animal in a vision. Others show themselves in dreams



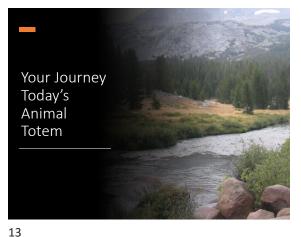
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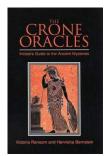






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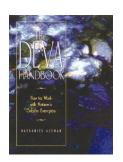
In the fifth initiation, we are opened to the ability to communicate to the deva world. The deva kingdom is comprised of the animating intelligence found inall levels of existence. They are the spirits of fire, water,earth, air, and higher consciousness.

Historically, elves, fairies, gnomes, sylphs, brownies, and all forms of "little people" are included in this kingdom. Kachinas (one of the deified ancestral spirits of the Hopi and other Pueblo Indians) and the spirits of the four directions, as well as the elementals found in nature.

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Elementals Devas from Each Element

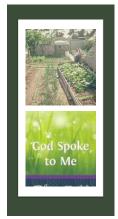
> Gnomes **Fairies** Water Nymphs Angels



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Angels, devas and elemental beings

Dorothy first attuned to the garden pea. As her communication with the forces of nature developed, Dorothy realized that she was in contact not with the spirit of an individual plant, but with the 'overlighting' being of the species, which was the consciousness holding the archetypal design of the species and the blueprint for its highest potential. She was experiencing a formless energy field for which there is no word. The closest word to convey the joy and purity that these beings emanated was the inaccurate word 'angel' (which in the west is full of form), and her first thought was to call them that. However, the Sanskrit term 'deva', meaning 'shining one' seemed more accurate and freer of cultural associations. In practice, she uses both words, although neither word is adequate. Peter and Dorothy applied the insights of the meditations to their work in the garden, and through this the Findhorn garden flourished. These were the first steps in the Findhorn Community's co-creation with nature.

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