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 # JACQUIE MOORE

The Saskatchewan Secret: Folk Healers, Diviners, and Mystics of the Prairies

Being a homegrown prairie girl, I have long held the belief that this wide open and surreal space called Saskatchewan cultivates some unique and extraordinary people.

For years, I have been intrigued with stories of Saskatchewan folk medicine. I'm all ears when someone mentions an elderly healer at Whitefox who, with one treatment, relieved a farmer's lifelong limp. And I'm all questions when so-and-so says their terminally ill cousin was miraculously cured by "a little old lady who lives by a lake near Debden ... or was it Leoville?"

There is a fable-like quality to these stories; the amazing anecdotes come through second- or third-hand sources and the cures are inexplicable. Word of mouth is usually the only channel to learn of these healers, but it's an age-old, effective method of separating the wheat from the chaff.

Through the grapevine of those cured from cancer, MS, debilitating pain and other chronic conditions, I came to hear of certain rare and gifted healers. The Saskatchewan Secret chronicles my journey as I headed out into the villages, the forests, and the suburbs to encounter 13 specific individuals.

These were people with one foot in a different realm. They were highly intuitive, informed by other elements. Some were of a certain culture and their healing knowledge had been passed down through special genetic memory. Others were born with a gift for 'seeing' or 'feeling.' Still others were accessing a power much greater than one person alone. These were people who did not choose to be healers; rather, their gift chose them.

Myself, I'm excited about the fact that there are things out there we cannot explain. I'm inspired by the untapped potential within us. And I'm heartened that there are good people living among us, quietly and modestly helping others in need.

This book is a homage to those healers, and an offering to share in the wisdom they have gathered about the natural world and our place in it.

The Saskatchewan Secret: Folk Healers, Diviners, and Mystics of the Prairies is available at McNally Robinson and numerous galleries and gift stores in the city. To order a signed copy online, please go to www.folkhealers.ca

Saskatchewan author Jacquie Moore