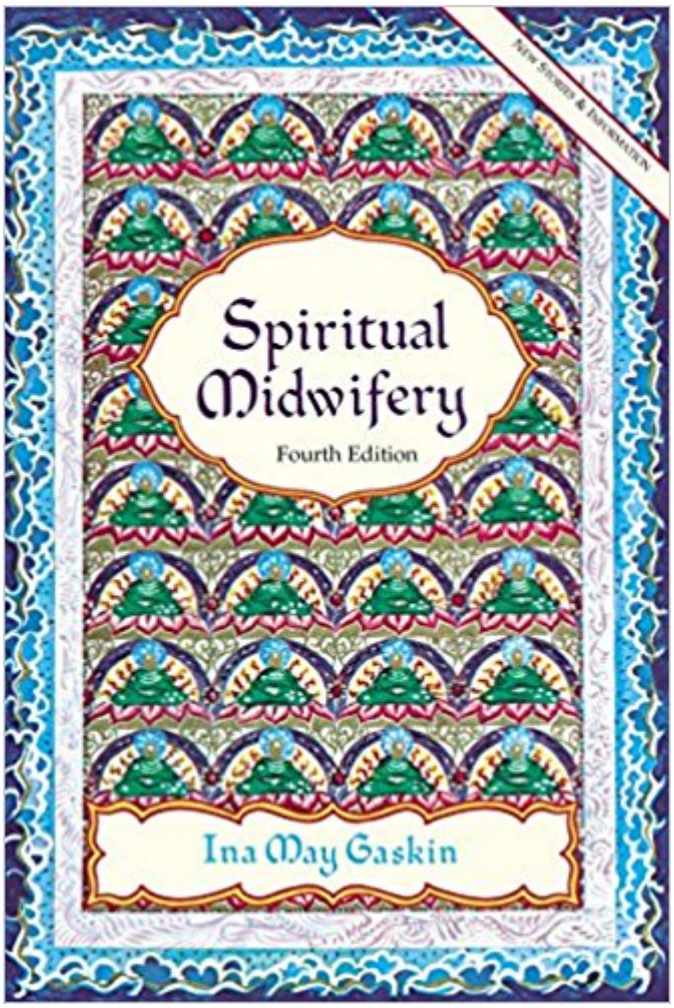
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Spiritual Midwifery



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Synopsis

The original Spiritual Midwifery, published in 1976, introduced an entire generation of young women to the possibility of home birth and breast feeding. It also breathed new life into the all-but-vanished field of midwifery. This classic book on home birth is now in its fourth edition, with updated information on the safety of natural childbirth, new birthing stories, and the most recent statistics on births managed by The Farm Midwives. Ina May also provides new information about potentially dangerous techniques routinely used in hospitals during and after birth, as well as the latest findings about VBAC (Vaginal Birth After Cesarean). Improved instructions for handling breech births are also given. Included are stories of working with Amish women, showing a different culture with a similar appreciation for natural childbirth. Photos, illustrations Over 540,000 copies sold!

Book Information

Paperback: 480 pages

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Customer Reviews

This classic book on home birth is now in it's 4th edition. Includes updated information on the safety of natural childbirth, new birthing stories, and the most recent statistics on births managed by The Farm Midwives. Also presents stories of working with Amish women, showing a different culture with a similar appreciation for natural childbirth.

Ina May Gaskin is one of the Founders and the current president of the Midwives' Alliance of North America. She is a powerful advocate for a woman's right to give birth without excessive and unnecessary medical intervention. Her clinical midwifery skills have been developed entirely through

independent study and apprenticeship with other midwives around the world. Ina May and fellow Farm midwives were instrumental in the development of the rigorous Certified Professional Midwife (CPM) certification process. Ina May travels internationally on speaking engagements and networking with other midwives and midwife alliances.

helped wife n me to birth at home. removed worries n gave me courage to midwife. amazing: she experienced natural labor rather than pain n drama (as described in book, she low-moaned). in less than hour (knees on floor, elbows on bed) had our non-crying babe in mommy's arms. we wish we had known of this earlier (for our 1st baby). our babe now going on four n so different from others: a deep sense of calm n peace like a buddha. taught us to really listen to babies, not ignore or speak over their words as if they are untrained animals. read the book for inspiration even, to know that babies, when given patience n chance, can impart wisdom through their simply being who they are.

Fantastic viewpoint on the process of pregnancy, birth, and relationships in general. The hippie vibe had a way of being very stereotypical without being cliche; the author and many of the writers of the experience stories were down-to-earth, and the nature of the book made it so that many of the spiritual concepts could be applied to all of life, not just pregnancy and birth.

Love this book! Recommended read for anyone, but especially women of childbearing age! Great way to inform yourself about natural birth and empower yourself! Love all the firsthand birth tales, all the great information on how to take care of yourself post-partum, and the midwife section is a great to stay informed about your baby and your pregnancy.

I read this every night, a few stories at a time, and I love it. Written well, never gets boring, super interesting, and very dated (in a good way.) This book has been preparing me for a natural birth and it's my favorite baby book I've gotten so far (I've ordered a lot and checked out tons from the library.) Every pregnant woman should read this, and most birth partners too. It's a good account of what birth is really like, how to be supportive of each other, and that even emergencies can be handled with grace and love.

Ina May writes birth stories in the first part of the book followed by how the female body works when pregnant and giving birth in the second half of the book. She includes inspirational birth stories as well as inspirational women who gently coped with tragedy. Her stories take place on The Farm in

Tennesse. This is a must read book if you are pregnant or if you want to work with pregnant women.

The book has two parts, most of it is short birthing stories written by the parents at the Farm and the second is more scientific, intended for midwives.It was a great companion during my pregnancy. You hear lots of stories, but a lot are negative. People seem to remember more problems and do not think twice before transmitting their own fears. It was great to hear very deep and positive words from women with whom I could identify. It was a great tool for the process of growing into a mother during my (first) pregnancy and enabling myself to be responsible for my choices in a loving way.I ended up giving birth home, supported by my partner (literally, I sat on his lap) to a big baby, almost a week after the date which the doctor at the social security had scheduled an induction, with the help of a traditional midwife. I thank Ina May Gaskin and all the mothers and fathers which collaborated in this book for sharing their experience; it helped build confidence and understanding of whom I wanted to be during this process.I hope someone writes something similar on afterbirth, there seems to be a void on the delicate period after pregnancy and before your baby has lived a few months.

This book is why I fell in love with Ina May Gaskin and decided to have a natural homebirth. You learn so many incredible tips and tricks about birth that quite simply are not being taught in modern medicine. This was a really good purchase and I almost read the whole thing in a week. Spiritual Midewifery helped me to understand my body and be in better tune with it as my pregnancy and then labor progressed. It was such an incredible book that it has even made me think about going back to school to become a nurse midwife... I know crazy?! I definitely recommend reading this.

This book is such a breath of fresh air from all of those scare-tactic, worst-possible-scenario books like "What to Expect". Instead of focusing on the negatives, this book provides MANY positive stories of calm, loving births, in the way they should be represented (as the most natural thing in the world). Even the stories that include moments of panic with the parents are worded in a way that shows that life and nature happens, and that everyone’s pregnancy and delivery are absolutely unique.The book also provides advice for pregnant and new mothers, advice that I have not been able to find anywhere else but has proven to be very helpful. Whether you plan on birthing naturally or not, this book is excellent for anyone who needs to get into a positive mindset regarding delivery. I will definitely buy a copy for any of my friends who become pregnant in the future!The condition of the book was excellent as well, just as advertised by the seller.

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