



# CROWSCRY PRESS

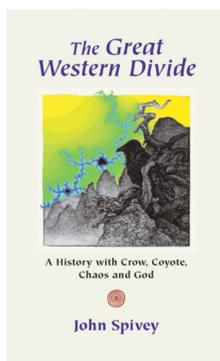
For immediate release

Contact: Gail Kearns (805) 898-2263  
GMKEA@aol.com

(Available for interview)

**Connecting with the Wonders of Nature and the Importance of Place**

***Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* meets John Muir and Joseph Campbell**



Once in a great while, a book comes along that conveys a message through which we can deepen our relationship with ourselves and relate to our noble Earth in ways we have forgotten. John Spivey's *The Great Western Divide: A History with Crow, Coyote, Chaos and God* does just this. The story is part memoir (taking the reader back to the author's roots in the San Joaquin Valley), part regional history (delving into the lore of the Central Valley), and part spiritual quest.

Like all great works, the intense personal expression becomes universal and brings readers back to their own places of origin, connecting them with individual experiences of how the landscapes of their formative years have helped to shape who they are.

The different levels of narrative lift the author's own story out of the strictly personal and into the mythic level in an attempt to show the readers that they can consciously choose to restore their minds to sanity concurrent with restoring the landscape of the Earth. It's wake-up call for all of us.

Zen Master Shunryu Suzuki Roshi said, "When you understand one thing through and through, you understand everything." Ultimately, *The Great Western Divide* is a journal of Spivey's exploration to understand his own life through and through. To accomplish and complete his journey, the author researched the history of the Yokuts Indians, the San Joaquin Valley, salmon in California, Mineral King Valley, Clarence King (the first



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white man to explore the Great Western Divide), and lastly the history of his own family's settling of the Kaweah watershed.

**THE GREAT WESTERN DIVIDE:  
A HISTORY WITH CROW, COYOTE, CHAOS AND GOD**

**Published by CrowsCry Press**

**Visit the website: [www.crowscry.com](http://www.crowscry.com)**

**and the weblog: <http://crowscry.blogspot.com>**

**Available to the trade through New Leaf Distributing and Baker & Taylor  
and at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)**

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Reviewers: please send 2 copies of your review to  
Gail Kearns, 825 East Pedregosa Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93103