

Seven Nature Spirits:

by Hugh Perry

Lessons in life are not often viewed as living entities with character, persona and a voice all of their own. However if you were raised by a native elder and during your childhood you developed a close relationship with Nature, you might think otherwise.

Had you lived such a lifestyle your story would be different from that of Chris O'Brien's for every journey has a life all its own, but the following is Chris's account of how Grandfather introduced him to the Seven Nature Spirits, as described in the fictional novel entitled, *Silent Partners*.

A strong wind blew, vibrating the panes of glass, drawing on my attention. Colors form, and dance in the distance taking on the appearance of fire in the night sky. These fiery shapes intensify and move closer, and eventually I am treated to a front row seat to the aurora borealis.

Then without warning the patterns of the aurora begin to turn fluid, like water filling the void on the other side of the window panes. Next, the liquid colors flow through the glass toward me. I feel no threat as they caress my hands and head.

As this occurs I become filled with a sense of joy. The kind of joy one might feel upon greeting a close friend, but this joy is far more powerful, ageless, knowing, and primeval. Then this joyous fluid enters my body filling me with the knowledge of the moment. I am being romanced by Nature. It is joining with me in a celebration.

A white glow begins to appear in the corner of the room. It transforms itself into an old man seated on a wooden chair. He leans forward and rests his elbows on his lap. Immediately I recognize his movements. It is Grandfather.

He grins and addresses me, >Say hi to **Spirit Vision**, My Son! This is one of seven spirits you will come to know well. Each will give what you need when you need it.= Then he slowly faded away.

This was the day I received my Vision. A vision of Nature and I winning together. No details were provided. No guide map given! None were required at the moment, for the joy was all I needed.

Many of us long for the presence of the Spirit of Vision. For some the vision diminishes to a memory of a profound experience, while others bath in its ongoing presents. So why does this spirit come to some and not to others, remain with some and not with others, give purpose to some and not for others? Grandfather gives Chris the answer, as he introduces another spirit.

*AAh, the **Spirit of Appreciation**! What a gift to the peoples of earth it is. It is like breathing, for we instinctively remember how it is done. It requires no dogma, no techniques, no tithing, no teachings, and has no special place of worship. We can only improve upon what we already know.*

It is the most direct method we humans use to connect with our Spirit. When we lack appreciation, there can be no vision. The act of appreciating draws energy into our being directly from the universe, right from the core of Nature itself. It is this energy that gives birth to our visions.®

Chris considered his explanation remembering how appreciation transformed some of the roughest individuals he had known. All it took was a sunset, or the still waters of a lake, or a child making eye contact from a distance, or a dog wanting attention.

Chris said to Grandfather, It's as though we enter a different universe in those brief moments of appreciation.®

*AYes! My Son,® Grandfather replied. However, if we want that vision to remain part of our life, we need to experience the great **Spirit of Direction**.®*

ASpirit?®

AYes! This spirit prompts us into action, for without getting to know the Spirit of Direction, there is no action, and where there is no action there is no sense of purpose. Purpose is much more than the fulfillment it gives us. Purpose builds a path for the vision to flow along. and like our deep need for fulfillment a vision needs a path. Remember, a vision by itself is merely a glimpse into what can be . . . for it has not happened yet.®

Reflecting on Grandfather-s meaning for a moment, Chris considered the many people he had met who expressed concern that they didn't have a purpose in their life. Perhaps they ignored the value of appreciation. Perhaps they received a vision, and expecting clarity to arrive much like their vision had, and they waited too long to act, and the vision vanished. They missed out on the joys of having a purpose.

*Chris asked, 'Is there a **Spirit of Flow**?®*

Indeed! Spirit Flow is the energy which flows along the path of purpose, that carries the Spirit Vision forward from the point of first meeting with Spirit Appreciation. Since the universe is energy, and we are a vehicle in transforming this energy into ideas, and visions into a reality we share time with Spirit Flow. We know when Spirit Flow is present and when it is not.®

ASo, you are saying that having a vision doesn't mean that we can sit around and wait for it to manifest. We have to act on it. Start the ball rolling on our own, so the energy can flow. The secret then is putting ourselves behind the vision, one hundred percent, then the energy will flow. But then what?®

*ANext comes the hard part. Here again there is a Spirit who guides us. The **Spirit of Letting Go**. There comes a time, My Son, when we have to abandon our creations. All those precious details we attached to giving direction to our vision seem so important one day, and yet have to be let go the next. There is a point in this process where we become attached to the direction we've given to our vision, and that attachment can lead us away from manifesting it. It is highly likely that our creations no longer resemble the original vision. It is also highly likely that events in the cosmos may call for some slight alterations to our vision. So getting to know the Spirit of Letting Go is part of the journey.*

Remember, My Son, there is a big difference between details we create which are subject to change, and the energy that breathes life into them.®

His concept was beginning to make sense to Chris, so he recapped his understanding to Grandfather. ASo when a vision becomes our purpose, we invest in it consciously and unconsciously, in our waking state as well as in our sleep. It becomes the topic of our conversations. Our subconscious mind seeks out anything that will support it. Anything from magazine titles jumping out at us from the rack, to people who want to listen to our ideas, and like you say, investing in it gives it direction which causes the energy to flow. The important thing is not so much the direction we give it as is the energy that flows into it. That-s why we should not become too attached to our creations. Right?®

ABeing prepared to abandon the details without losing sight of our vision is to dance with these Nature Spirits.® Grandfather added, 'Humans are like flocks of sea gulls. Two squawk over food and the rest of the flock heads towards the sound. For us, it-s the energy we hunger for and we flock to where we think the energy might be. When I speak to you of the many spirits that help us along our path of remembering who we are, you grin at their names. But they are as real as the laws that make the waters run down hill. There are many more Spirits whom you have yet to meet, My Son.

*ANow you are ready to meet the **Spirit of Timing**.®*

This is an excerpt from the first two chapters of this adventure that marries spirituality to environmental issues. There is two more Nature Spirits introduced by Grandfather near the end of the novel, **the Spirit of Rewards and the Spirit of Evolution**, but that requires more attention than we can give here.