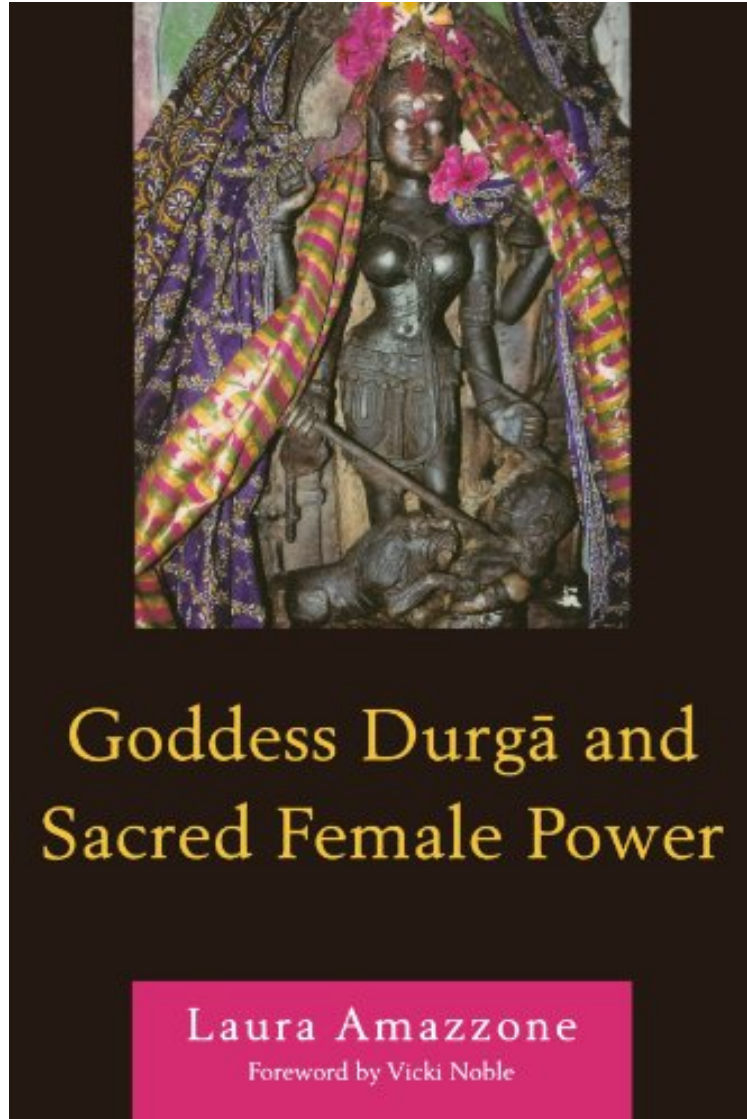


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## Goddess Durga and Sacred Female Power

*Laura Amazzone*

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**Laura Amazzone : Goddess Durga and Sacred Female Power** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Goddess Durga and Sacred Female Power:

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*Goddess Durga and Sacred Female Power* is an exploration of the many faces of the Goddess Durga in ancient and contemporary culture. This book takes us on a pilgrimage to goddess temples and natural shrines, to visit shamans and living goddesses in the Kathmandu Valley of Nepal, and to India for the annual ten-day Durga Festival. The mythology, rituals, philosophy, and spiritual practices of this distinctly female-centered and millennia-old tradition of Durga offer an alternative model of female potential and empowerment, focusing on peace, healing, spiritual liberation, and realization of inherent divinity.

Amazzone's powerful narrative of her personal experience backed by extensive field and library research is a must read for anyone interested in the relationships between the divine female, women's spirituality, and women's empowerment. It is a splendid example of feminist writing in which the author is deeply engaged in her own journey. Hers was a pilgrimage to the source, and of personal renewal and redemption promising hope for the return of the goddess in Western consciousness. (Elinor Gadon, PhD., Author of *The Once and Future Goddess*, religious studies professor at Brandeis University) Amazzone's voice is strong and clear. Goddess Durga promises the transformation, empowerment, and dignity that is our birthright. (Marisa Tomei, Academy Award-winning actor) Scholarly and fierce, the work of Laura Amazzone draws from our ancient strength. The time for this wisdom is now. (Alice Walker, poet; activist; author of *The Color Purple*) Laura Amazzone is a modern day yogini. She is a scholar as well as a practitioner and her new book *Goddess Durga and Sacred Female Power* embodies this duality.... True to feminine form, *Goddess Durga and Sacred Female Power* is a balanced read, utilizing the logical brain and the intuitive heart. The book itself is in a non-linear layout, meaning it does not need to be experienced from start to finish- it is cyclical and can be picked up, flipped through and enjoyed from any angle. (Common Ground) About the Author Laura Amazzone is an author, teacher, jewelry artist, and Yogini. She completed her master's degree in philosophy and religion with an emphasis in women's spirituality at the California Institute of Integral Studies in 2001. Laura teaches goddess classes and workshops in California and is adjunct faculty in the Yoga Philosophy program at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.