

Courting the Invisible Soul and Practicing the Art of Mirroring

*Her eye and my "I":
Her gazing
creates me.*

*His voice and my
ear — I'm seized
by hearing.*

*How because
of the beloved
I come into being.*

*Under her touch,
all of me shudders.*

— Gregory Orr

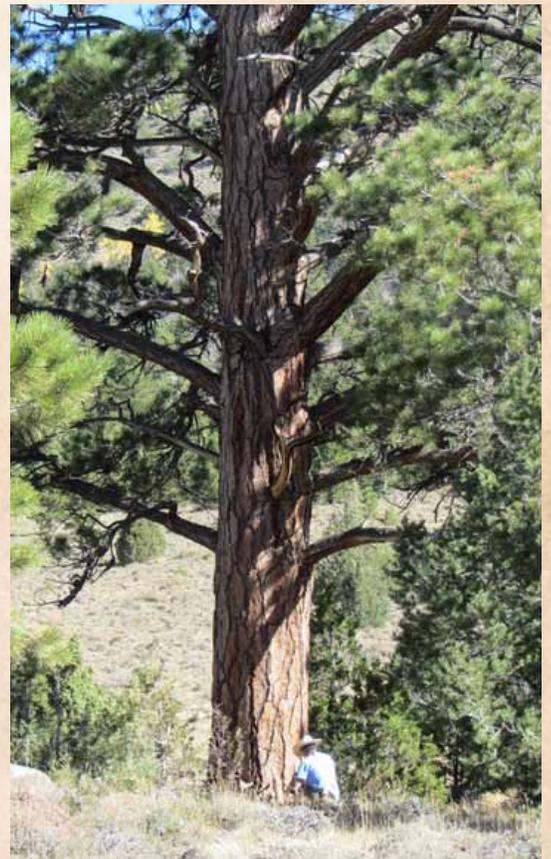
May 28–June 2, 2019 | Awapa Plateau in Utah near Loa, UT off of Hwy 24

To court is to discover what we love and to find gallant and elegant ways to bring this into our lives.

We often think we'll find the answer to our longing for love outside ourselves, seeking endlessly for the perfect mate, or spending hours in disappointment for what we don't receive from our "significant other". The object of this longing resides, however, within the inner courtship with our own invisible soul. This shy one hides in the wings of our psyche always waiting for our attention, waiting for us to begin to embody our longing and invitation in words, song, dance or whatever forms might be elicited from the depths of our imagination. These simple acts of sweet engagement with our souls open the door to the mysteries of our true selves. We enter a rich conversation of deeply knowing and being known, of being ravished from the inside out.

This ravishment is our own secret discovery of what brings our hearts and passion fully alive. In courting the mysterious inner soul/lover, we discover enthusiasm to birth new life into our world. This new, never-before-seen life, begotten through intercourse with the mystery of our soul-selves is what propagates creative new forms and provides real nourishment for ourselves and for our world.

Our invisible soul is waiting for a sign that we are ready to put away the everyday concerns of survival and open ourselves up to the mystery of what we don't immediately know about ourselves and our lives. For some this may be an opportunity for the beginnings of a courtship with their soul. For others it may be a return to this ever-evolving relationship, where time and again we are willing to take a risk in romance and courtship of the mysterious other and make an approach towards this radiance with our own trembling hearts.



In our 5 days together on the Awapa Plateau in central Utah, there will be ample time for wandering on this land of many waters in mountain terrain that will be the place where we will follow the allurements that call to each one of us in this sparkling landscape of spring creeks, ponds and lakes surrounded by ancient ponderosa, tall spruce and dancing aspens.

An added feature of this program will be the opportunity to practice the art of mirroring, also a form of courtship. By reflecting the stories of one another that are told after each one of the wanders into nature, you 'see' the storyteller as well as yourself with fresh love eyes. It is a way of deep listening and offering reflection without imposing interpretation or anything outside the story that is a valuable skill and gift, both to the listener/mirrorer and to the one who tells her/his story. Guidelines for this practice will be given and enhanced throughout the week.

We will also be utilizing practices to facilitate the shifting of consciousness that can open us to our deep imaginations. This might include rhythm making with drums and rattles, deep imagery, sharing dreams, group ceremony, utilizing art, and movement.



Must Register By: March 15, 2019

COST: \$700

All camping includes camp fee

Non-refundable deposit of \$200 to register.

Registrations and final payments due 30 days before the program. Meal cost not included. Sharing in food preparation will be part of our community practice, more details on meal logistics will be included in the prep materials. In the event that we find it necessary to cancel the program you will receive a full refund.

**For more information and how to register please contact Annie Bloom at:
annie@xmission.com or 435-425-2254**

Guides



Annie Bloom has been guiding with Peter in the wilderness since 2002 when they discovered the magical cauldron their combined hearts wove together for people to cook in the transformations that awaited them.

For the past 25 years Annie has been an initiator to hundreds of people who have crossed over the threshold into the dreaming lodge of the world seeking a sacred vision for their lives. With her own development of Somatic Inquiry over her 33 years as a bodywork practitioner, she has led people into the truth at the center of their being, and is now standing with welcoming arms with her sweetheart Niles at the doorstep of **Buffalo Dreaming Lodge: www.buffalodreaminglodge.com**. With training and guiding through School of Lost Borders, Animas Valley Institute, Wilderness Reflections, and Synergos Institute, she has devoted her life to listening for the heartbeat of the holy in all things.



Peter Scanlan was a clinical psychologist in private practice for 34 years in Nashville, Tennessee. He trained with Animas Valley Institute and with School of Lost Borders as a vision quest guide and was a lead guide for the Animas Valley Institute for 16 years. He works to facilitate the transformation of personal story into the mytho-poetic story that each of us inhabits. He is dedicated to

guiding people to the edge of the deepest mysteries, holding sacred space while they plunge into those depths, and then honoring the unique power and truth of the stories that they bring back from those journeys. He brings heart presence and a playful spirit to his work.

Website: **www.peterscanlan.com**