



A Wyatt-MacKenzie Imprint

SUMMONING THE MOUNTAINS: PILGRIMAGE INTO FORTY BY AMY ALLEN

FULL AUTHOR BIO:

Amy Allen holds a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Appalachian State University (1987) designing her degree around her interest in Native American culture, combining Anthropology, Native American Studies and Social Work with an English minor. She went on to study at University of Oklahoma's Field School of Ethnography, living and working with the Southern Cheyenne.

Amy has been a backpacker for over 28 years. She has built and lived in a debris hut and spent a winter living in a tipi. She was a NC Governor's School graduate in Voice in 1983, and won the NC Federation of Women's Clubs Literature Scholarship for her poetry at age 16. Amy has journaled her life experiences since age 12, her enthusiasm for life apparent in an eclectic resume that includes logging with a team of draft horses, baling Christmas trees, tapping maple trees, making rawhide for local drum-makers as well as more conventional work such as technical support, human resources and data analysis. She has brain-tanned buckskins, been a baker in inner city Philadelphia, and picked blueberries in western North Carolina. Amy was a founding member of a small family community wilderness program whose goal was to foster a holistic relationship between today's families and the outdoor classroom. Her hobbies include organic gardening, yoga, sewing, canning and baking.

Amy lives in Western North Carolina with her husband. Her latest adventure has been a year of team driving in an 18-wheeler. Her trucking blog can be found at www.opnrds.blogspot.com. Amy continues long-distance hiking and has completed the Foothills Trail and parts of the Benton MacKaye Trail.