

Harry Pond Looks Homeward, The Spiritual Adventures of an Ohio Farm Boy
Author, Jay Allan Luboff

Q&As

Q. Why did you decide to write this book?

A. My writing of *Harry Pond Looks Homeward, The Spiritual Adventures of an Ohio Farm Boy* came about as a desire on my part to share what I feel are some universal truths that I've learned about life, love, the "Light" and the "Soul's Journey" – upon which we are all embarked. I decided that rather than write about these things in a non-fiction format related to "Lessons of the Soul," or something like that, I could better inform my readers in a fiction format about an All-American kid from Ohio who himself embarks on his own journey of awakening. Harry is not alone and he and his sister Becky and friends are faced with difficult issues of darkness and light on the Earth that they have to learn to solve and they do so by reaching to the LIGHT that is beyond the challenges inherent in these daily polarities. In the process, Harry (and the others) learns valuable lessons in his connection with God, his own "Higher self," Angels, and even Higher-order Beings (Ascended Masters) of Light.

So, for me, Harry is a hero that I can admire and one that I hope my readers will find admirable as well in the course their reading of the book. And, just as Harry has learned valuable lessons of the soul, I hope that my readers will do so as well on their own soul's journey.

Q. Do you have any secret writing tips you'd like to share?

A. The most amazing thing about my writing of the Harry Pond book is that I did not plan it for a second beforehand. Oh, yes, I had an idea about writing on the soul's journey and what I call in the book, the "Master's Path." And I also wanted to write about an American hero who could reflect the values and learning of the spiritual journey, but other than that, the book really wrote itself.

The most important tip I have for those who are inspired to write fiction that touches people's values and is connected with "spirit" in some way, is to "get out of the way" as much as possible and cooperate in a co-creation with your muse.

I enjoyed writing *Harry Pond Looks Homeward* immensely, but the times that I found most challenging were those when my own idea of how the story "should" unfold got in the way of Harry telling his own story. Indeed, if I hit any "writer's block" issues at all, this was the reason. I am sure some really successful authors lay it out ahead of time, but for me, I feel more like an inspired storyteller sitting around a campfire someplace telling an old, old tale. This worked for me and I recommend that approach for those for whom it works.

Q. Tell us a quirky, funny or unexpected story about you.

A. Around the time of the harmonic convergence I decided to visit Tibet, to go to Lhasa and then hitchhike across Tibet to Mt. Kailas, which is the most sacred mountain on the planet to the Hindu, Buddhist and Jain religions. I was living in Washington State at the time. Well,

before I went I spent some time with a friend who was a psychic and she told me that one day I would meet a man with an eagle on his chest with whom I would have a strong connection and we would share valuable spiritual lessons together. She said this would happen someplace on “the coast.” She didn’t know which coast or where, she just said, “the coast.”

I didn’t think much of it, but when I got back from Tibet the following year, my wife and I decided to move to Carmel on the coast of California. While living there, I became involved with some Native American activities which led me to be invited to a sweat lodge on a beach some forty miles north. So, I went, and what happened there was beyond my own ability to fully understand, and yet it was totally magical.

For when I got to the sweat I was introduced to the folks who were also participating, and to the leader, a Native American man of Apache descent. I stripped down to my swimming shorts, which I’d brought, and entered the lodge as the fire was building. The leader did the same after me and then went on to lead a very powerful experience for over three and a half hours – all in the darkness of the sweat lodge. I felt comfortable and a strange sort of familiarity with the place and situation. So, all in all I had a great, spiritually connected, experience.

But that was not the whole of it; when I came out of the lodge, the leader – who had long black hair tied down to his waist – was there to greet me and the others and to my shock (and I think his) as I walked towards him, I saw he had a huge eagle tattoo on his chest. We looked at each other and as I moved to him to hug him and thank him for the ceremony he moved towards me and when we were about a foot away from each other, before we embraced, we both were almost knocked over backwards at the power of our meeting -- which contained a huge amount of real live electrical energy that neither of us could explain (as we spoke of it later). We both looked at each other curiously as if to say, “who is this man,” and then smiled and gave each other that greeting hug. Later we became friends and even led a workshop together.

So, I did have this remarkable experience of meeting the “man with the eagle on his chest” just as foretold by my psychic friend and it was incredible. To this day, I am not exactly sure the meaning of that meeting, but know it helped me along on my spiritual journey.

Q. What books are on your nightstand right now?

A. I am reading some great spiritual books, some for the second time around. Here they are:

- The Gnosis and the Law by Tellis S. Papastavro,
- Unveiled Mysteries by Godfre Ray King
- Ask and It Is Given, Esther and Jerry Hicks
- The Urantia Book

Q. What's your favorite quote?

A. "The Light of God Always Prevails." Some places I have seen this quote as "The Light of God Never Fails," but I turned it around to be on the positive side of "always prevails" instead of "never fails." For me it means that the Light that exists beyond the duality of the earth plane is what really leads our way, even though sometimes our ego think it's in charge.

Q. Who inspires you the most?

A. As an author, I have been inspired most by Madeleine L'Engle for her ability to translate both simple and complex metaphysical truths into captivating spiritual children's stories.