

**MYSTICISM FOR OUR TIME**  
**Meister Eckhart --- A mystic warrior for our time**  
**By Matthew Fox**

**My first thought when I see the word “mystic”** is of a guru sitting cross-legged on a mountain-top or in front of a cave. Wizenen in years withdrawn from the world.

I never think of a mystic as a “warrior.”

Matthew Fox changes my views. His whole book is filled with examples. None are sitting on mountain tops or in front of caves.

I knew little about. **Meister Eckhart**. A name from around the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Matthew Fox calls him a **mystic** and a **warrior** --- **“for our time.”**

By the time this book is finished the reader will know Eckhart and a whole lot of people like him --- mystics. And you may agree that they speak to our time. I mean **our time right now ... global pandemic ... economic shut-down ... social conflict, poverty, racism, religious strife, global warming... our daily news**. Meister Eckhart is a mystic warrior for our time.

**As I write these words the pine coffin** of Justice Ruth Ginsberg lies at the entrance of United States Supreme Court. This lady embodied a spirit for justice and compassion like the prophets of her Jewish tradition. She did battle with the powers of lobbyists for oil and coal and smokestack industries and automotive manufacturers. Global warming and climate change were on her agenda as well. She recently claimed Swedish Teenager, Greta Thunberg, as one who inspired hope for the future. The politics of those who valued wealth over health did not deter her. A mystic warrior for planet earth for our time.

**Matthew Fox speaks of the “Cosmic Christ.”** This is not the last name of Jesus. “Cosmic Christ” is not an entity or being or third person in a Trinity. It is the nothing or something within or behind or beyond any idea or act that is indescribable.

Indigenous people revered the indescribable in every insect, plant, tree, animal...everything. Religions have their own names for what is beyond all names. Marcus Borg called it simply **“More.”** An old mystic friend spoke of the **“Wow!”** It is in nature...some say it is Nature. Many first experience it as awareness of being alive...and part of...the Cosmos.

Some are “turned on” by musical performance, a poem, a sunset, a rose, and unexpected indescribable **“Moment.”** Some are stirred by inhumanity and injustice.

The Hebrew prophets came out of the wilderness into the towns. Often ridiculed and persecuted, like Jesus. They were warriors for...compassion and justice...and peace...and for planet earth. Mystic warriors.

I often mention my grandfather, a mystic warrior for peace and justice in Seattle in his time and ours...and like prophets today, a poet. (*He would strongly agree to change “man” to “human”*)

***And yet a man who calmly can behold, unmoved The awful, useless, self-inflicted tragedies  
of his own time and race And not be swept, betimes from off his feet...***

***Who never flames with fury and does not long To blast the wretched wrong...***

***Is scarce a man! And often is not fit to wash the feet***

***Of him who shouts and pleads upon the street.*** (Arthur D. Weage, ca. 1935)

In memory of all Mystic Warriors.

*Art Morgan, September 23, 2020*