

Job Opening: Assistant to our Director, Tamarack Song

Why an assistant? Considering my directorship of three nonprofits (a healing center, a publishing house, and a wilderness skills school) and my writing, counseling, and environmental restoration professions, I don't think many would question the possibility of constituents being better served if someone were working with me.

Yet I don't feel comfortable with having an *assistant*, as the term implies a hierarchical relationship. More accurately, I want a partner—a co-conspirator for change and healing. I'm looking for a person who encourages—better yet, *demand*s—my best, and who wants a supportive venue for expressing his/her best. I'd prefer someone who, like me, is unorthodox and revels in pushing the edge. Together we can accomplish so much more synergistically than when working alone.

My approach centers on remembering what it is to be human, and in renewing the fundamental ways of living with honor and respect for all life. Along with that, I am dedicated to finding humor in all things, living well, and nurturing strong, lasting relationships. To those ends, I offer courses, seminars, and other media presentations that lure people out of their comfort zones and engage them in a life that's worth living.

Someone working with me would be involved in correspondence, outreach, and assisting in the production of audio-video presentations, along with research and editing to prepare my doctoral dissertations and other writings for submission/publication. Then there is whatever else comes up, which could be anything from wild food foraging to organizing a trance dance to native habitat restoration. The bottom line: there is never a dull moment.

The qualities I'd like in an associate:

- Brilliance, creativity, and enthusiasm.
- Academic preciseness when needed.
- An early riser.
- A burning sense of presence.
- Listening/expressive abilities.
- The courage to address me when I'm off my game.
- The ability to keep pace with me; i.e. an overachiever.

Here, from an editor with whom I work closely, is a taste of what it's like to collaborate with me: "I wanted to write a quick note to say 'Thank you' as we approach the two-year mark since we've begun working together. In reflecting, I am so grateful for the way that I've matured as a writer, a young man, and a community member from working with you. As my supervisor, you've always given me encouragement to learn more, be creative, and share my thoughts. As a peer, you've really created a space where I feel safe expanding my awareness in new directions."

Most important to me is that my cohort feel fulfilled and continue to grow as a person. In working with me, she/he has the opportunity to learn a range of life-enriching entrepreneurial, communication, and personal-fulfillment skills, no matter what his/her ultimate passions or goals

might be. Aspiring writers have a built-in creative writing mentorship with an award-winning author. And I as well intend to grow bountifully from the sharing.

This is an in-house position. Enchanting woodland lodging and all-organic meals are provided, along with an impressive list of fringe benefits and a monthly stipend.

If this opening resonates with whom you are—and if walking on the wild side ignites your passion—I respectfully await your resume and cover letter.

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