

book chat

by Cindy Bellinger

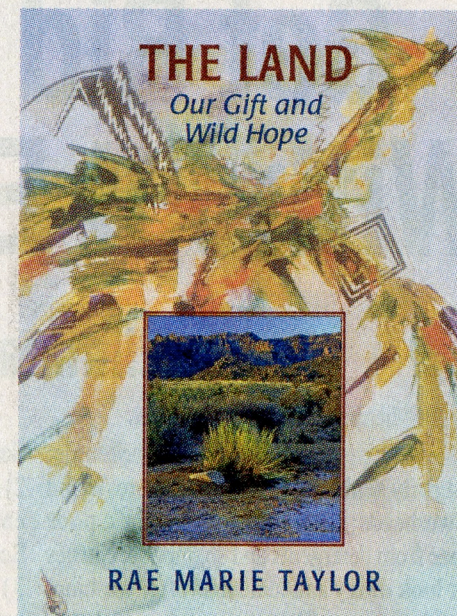
The Land, Our Gift and Wild Hope

If you're concerned about the condition of our land, especially in the Southwest, this book bears witness to the edginess many feel these days. Yet, the book rings with hope. The narrative weaves between the author's home in Quebec where she teaches, and her long sojourns in New Mexico and Colorado.

Taylor, a poet, essayist and artist, was the illustrator for the Mesa Verde National Park's archeology lab. From there she became immersed in the cultures, wildlife and habitats throughout the Southwest. "The Land" is both a personal story as well as an appeal to all of us to deeply care for our land.

While telling her own account of loss in the Rocky Mountain/Rio Grande corridor, Taylor also shares the collaboration she's found. She outlines many of the sustainable methods people are applying and how they are making strides in the earth's gradual renewal.

She brings to light the use of innovative ranching and restoration practices; plus she adds scientific data that clearly affirms the importance of earth-based values. Together the eyewitness accounts, interviews and lively anecdotes make this well-written book truly inspirational reading.



The Land, Our Gift and Wild Hope. By Rae Marie Taylor. Bright Shores Press, 2012. Softcover. 256 pgs. \$16.00. To order visit <http://raemarietaylor.com/theland>.