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TREEGIRL: Intimate Encounters

With Wild Nature
By Julianne Skai Arbor

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Contact: Jane Wesman 212-620-4080 x11 jane@wesmanpr.com

or

Felicia Sinusas 212-620-4080 x14 felicia@wesmanpr.com

"This book offers far more than photography: it deeply informs us about trees — their botanical characteristics and their vital place in human culture for countless millennia. The result is a masterpiece that defies categorization but is easy to enjoy." —Richard Heinberg, Senior Fellow, Post Carbon Institute; author of *Our Renewable Future*

Spectacular New Photography Book,
TREEGIRL: INTIMATE ENCOUNTERS WITH WILD NATURE,
Presents A Personal Look At The Beauty, Grandeur, And Importance
Of Trees Around The Globe

Photographer, Arborist, And Forest Ecotherapist Julianne Skai Arbor Invites Readers To Escape The Craziness Of Our Modern Lives

By Embracing The Healing Power Of The Natural World

Affinity for trees is embedded in the human psyche. The folklore, mythology, and symbolism of trees are rooted in cultures all over the world. But for Julianne Skai Arbor – photographer, certified arborist, conservation educator, and forest ecotherapist – trees have even greater meaning. They are her secret love. In her spectacular new book, **TREEGIRL:** Intimate Encounters With Wild Nature, Arbor, a.k.a. TreeGirl, invites readers to share her love of the wildness and grandeur of Nature through more than 150 photographs, complemented by personal essays and information about the natural history of trees. Many of the book's photographs are emotive self-portraits showing Arbor naked and vulnerable, gracefully entwined with the trees. These evocative images, essays, and personal stories remind us that amidst the craziness of our modern technological culture and unprecedented climate crisis, we humans *are* Nature and connecting deeply with Nature is truly healing.

As Arbor explains, "Imagine if we completely open our hearts to Nature and fall in love over and over again with the sacredness of this life force . . . I invite us modern humans to become re-enchanted with Nature, to experience intimacy and soulful engagement with trees and our more-than-human companions on this Earth . . . I have found my secret love in the plant kin-dom of trees. I encourage you to find your secret love in Nature as well – to find your wild within."

There is no other book quite like **TREEGIRL:** Intimate Encounters With Wild Nature. Since 1995, the author has traveled the world from Northern California to the plains of Africa in search of breathtaking trees. Once she finds a specimen that she truly loves, she sheds her clothes, scales the trunk and limbs, and photographs herself in blissful connection with the tree. The resulting photographs are gorgeous and awe-inspiring. Accompanying each image is information about the tree's species, highlighting its distinctive characteristics, as well as its traditional and modern uses.

TREEGIRL: Intimate Encounters With Wild Nature also includes five marvelous essays by Arbor that address various aspects of the human-tree relationship. In *Lovers*, the author presents a dreamy tale of her sensual, transmutational encounter with a tree. In *Tree Affinity*, she discusses the biology and psychology of why people are attracted to trees. Her essay *Touch Trees* presents a holistic view of arboriculture – the science of taking care of trees, while *The Goddess and the Green Man* is the story of Arbor's spiritual experiences with trees as female and male Nature archetypes. The last chapter *Rewilding* offers seven accessible ways for people to connect with Nature to "rewild" themselves – from taking wilderness walks to gathering leaves, pine cones, or rocks for inspiration.

Beautifully designed and printed, **TREEGIRL: Intimate Encounters With Wild Nature** serves as both a personal photographic record of Julianne Skai Arbor's intimate experiences as well as a scientifically grounded look at the importance of trees and the threats that many species now face. This unique book will awaken the readers' own

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inner yearnings to find connection and companionship within Nature. As photographer Erica Mueller, founder of the Embody Project says, "TREEGIRL: Intimate Encounters With Wild Nature is the perfect marriage: gorgeous nude fine-art photography book meets arboriculturist's master class. TreeGirl has set a new precedent for us all to see — and know — ourselves as one with wild Nature."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Julianne Skai Arbor a.k.a TreeGirl is the author of **TREEGIRL: Intimate Encounters With Wild Nature.** She has been on the forefront of the fields of ecotherapy and nature connection since she began creating self-portraits with trees in 1995. Certified as an arborist with the International Society of Arboriculture and as a California naturalist with the University of California, Arbor has taught interdisciplinary college-level conservation education for over ten years, including pioneering the first program in environmental arts.

Julianne Skai Arbor holds graduate degrees in Environmental Education and Arts and Consciousness Studies, and is continuing her studies in Forestry and Climate Change. With her passion for trees she creates an experiential bridge to connect people with nature through forest ecotherapy, portrait sessions, and immersive nature retreats with trees around the world. She lives in Sonoma County, California amidst the native oak and coast redwood trees. Her gallery of images can be found at www.TreeGirl.org.