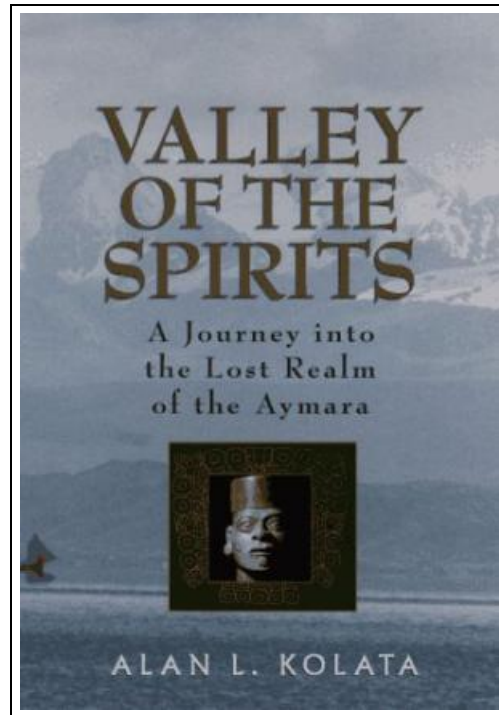


Valley of the Spirits: A Journey Into the Lost Realm of the Aymara (Hardback)



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Reviews

This book will not be simple to get going on reading but extremely exciting to read through. Yes, it can be play, still an interesting and amazing literature. I am very easily could possibly get a delight of reading a written book.
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VALLEY OF THE SPIRITS: A JOURNEY INTO THE LOST REALM OF THE AYMARA (HARDBACK)



John Wiley and Sons Ltd, United States, 1996. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. In a secluded valley high in the Andes Mountains, long before the time of the Incas and the Aztecs, the empire of the Aymara rose from the shores of Lake Titicaca and flourished for nearly a thousand years. The secrets of the Aymara civilization, one of the first great empires of the Americas, have only recently been deciphered from the haunting ruins of their splendid temples, among which their contemporary descendants still live and work today. In Valley of the Spirits, Alan Kolata takes us deep into the mystical world of the Aymara, where past and present come together and the spirits of ancient ancestors still speak to shamans in the voices of mountain springs. Kolata's unique knowledge of the Aymara is based on 17 years of research at the site of the ancient empire. Its crown jewel was the dazzling ancient capital of Tiahuanaco, whose gold and silver-appointed temples and monumental stone sculptures intensified the mythic aura of the city, imbuing it with a quality of the supernatural. From A.D. 400-1100, it was the spiritual center of the Andean world. According to Aymara myth, the creator god Viracocha brought man to life from the springs and rocks of Tiahuanaco's sacred landscape. The city's rich symbolism linked man inextricably to the majestic plan--and the cyclical fates--of nature. Royal priests performed elaborate animal and human sacrifices and buried human trophy heads and the mummified remains of Aymara kings in lavish religious pageants. So impressive was the legacy of Tiahuanaco that the Inca rulers claimed descent from the Aymara kings more than 500 years after the empire's mysterious catastrophic demise. Kolata deciphers the mysteries of the ancient monuments, from the massive...



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