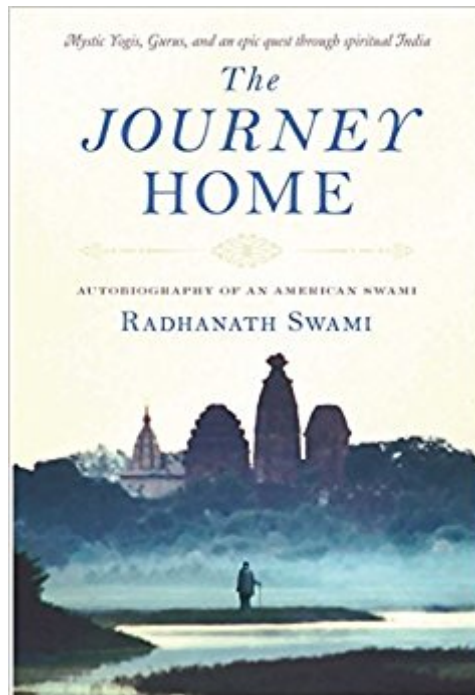




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# **The Journey Home: Autobiography Of An American Swami**



## Synopsis

Within this extraordinary memoir, Radhanath Swami weaves a colorful tapestry of adventure, mysticism, and love. Readers follow Richard Slavin from the suburbs of Chicago to the caves of the Himalayas as he transforms from young seeker to renowned spiritual guide. *The Journey Home* is an intimate account of the steps to self-awareness and also a penetrating glimpse into the heart of mystic traditions and the challenges that all souls must face on the road to inner harmony and a union with the Divine. Through near-death encounters, apprenticeships with advanced yogis, and years of travel along the pilgrim's path, Radhanath Swami eventually reaches the inner sanctum of India's mystic culture and finds the love he has been seeking. It is a tale told with rare candor, immersing the reader in a journey that is at once engaging, humorous, and heartwarming.

## Book Information

Paperback: 368 pages

Publisher: Mandala Publishing; 1 edition (January 19, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1601090560

ISBN-13: 978-1601090560

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 265 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #75,950 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Hinduism > Rituals & Practice #18 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Self-Help #141 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > New Age & Spirituality > Mysticism

## Customer Reviews

New York Times's best-selling author Radhanath Swami was born in Chicago in 1950. At age nineteen, he traveled overland from London to India, where he lived in Himalayan caves, learned yoga from revered masters, and eventually became a world-renowned spiritual leader in his own right. His acclaimed memoir, *The Journey Home*, has been translated into over twenty languages and sold in over forty countries worldwide. Radhanath Swami presently travels in Asia, Europe, and America teaching devotional wisdom but can often be found with his community in Mumbai, where he works tirelessly to help develop communities, food distribution initiatives, missionary hospitals, schools, ashrams, emergency relief programs, and eco-friendly farms.

This is one of the most amazing stories of the search for God I have ever read. I traveled much of the same route in India and Nepal and find his descriptions of people, places and hospitality to be much the same as mine. I had no previous knowledge of Radhanath Swami and several times I found the experiences of this teenager immediately falling into the inner circle of the many saints and holy men he was seeking to be un-believable. With so much synchronisety I began to believe this was complete fiction. There are several videos on youtube where he speaks of these adventures . I see now that his dedication and suffering has paid off in finding what he was seeking and bringing him to what he has become today. Perhaps the lesson for me is that when we truly have our heart set on achieving something and are willing to do whatever it takes to get there we have magical and sometimes unbelievable help from higher powers than our own.If you have ever experienced this part of the world from ground level you will especially enjoy Radhanath's excellent descriptions of the people, places and events.

A perfect book. I can't say enough about this read - it has it all: adventure, intrigue, insight, self-help, and, best of all, it ignites a desire in me to become a less selfish, more introspective, more giving, and more caring spiritual being. I literally could not put this book down and I still open it, at times of need, to any random page which, nine times out of ten, hits the spiritual spot. Thank you Radhanatha Swami for sharing your spiritual journey and deep wisdom with us all. Our gratitude is steadily growing.

I enjoyed the read and feel as if like the author, I too was being led to this book. I had never heard of Radhanath Swami before until I began searching for a yoga instructor class which led to me finding a free lecture by him. It mentioned this book which I purchased to read before going to hear him. I didn't get to read it all prior to but finally finished it a few months later.If you are looking for a story about a spiritual quest to find a home within then you will enjoy this book. It shows us how perseverance toward a goal and faith it will happen can conquer all. It gives me hope that I will achieve my same goal though my path is greatly different.

I have read a number of books recently about the spiritual quest. I found this to be the best because there is so much rich detail about India, the people, the saints, the sadhus, and what like is like for the author. I was especially touched by how much heart and love comes across in the telling of this story and how the ego diminishes early on. I appreciate the exploration of devotion by a westerner

as devotion is not really understood in our America. culture. I want to learn more about Krishna, Radha and Rama as a result of reading this book. Quite the adventure!

Amazing book. I have become a fan of Swamiji, I have read his other book too. I order 1 copy for my mom in India too. Swamiji's life journey has been nothing short of a miracle, he followed his gut instinct and faith hitchhiked with no money in his pocket from Europe to India. Would love to travel through road someday myself taking the same path. Swamiji before choosing his path, he met various gurus and finally choose the one he could connect with. You must read to understand his spiritual journey.

This is the best audio book in the world I experienced. Author of the book is genuine and presenting the power of inner voice in very pure way. Each words in this book is filled with shelter to that Almighty. This book is the need of the time and all types of people can learn so many lessons from this book. Audio is high quality with back ground music. Sound vibrations of Radhanath Swami are really purifying.

This is one of the most amazing books I have ever read. And to think that it's a true story! A young Richard Slavin, destined to one day become a great spiritual leader named Radhanath Swami, decides to hitchhike from Europe to India. Barely having any money, he does the unthinkable, surviving near death-experiences along the way. The journey to India is just the initial part of the book. From there you get an inside look at the many spiritual traditions of that land, all through the eyes of the young Richard, who is a genuine seeker of the truth. In some parts of the world you only get the two options: follow what your church or religious organization says or turn to atheism. In India there is more of an intellectual component. The many factions each define who the individual is and what the individual's relationship is to a higher power, if there is believed to be one. More importantly, spirit is stressed over matter, as the body does not represent the individual. In this book you'll hear of how Richard had association with practically all of the camps, and how he finally came upon the one he would accept for the rest of his life. The adventures in this book are really amazing. I found myself in disbelief quite often. There is an incredible amount of detail as well. I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys adventures and is open to hearing about different philosophies that have existed since the dawn of time. My favorite part of the book is the description of Richard's time in the land of Vrindavana, which is infused with the devotional spirit. I found myself transported to that wonderful area and not

wanting to leave. Immense thanks to the author for releasing this book, and hopefully he has many more stories to tell us in the future.

The hitchhiking story is adventurous ,funny,crying,suspenseful and has all contents of a good travel account.Moreover it has a thoughtful, heart rendering, soul-searching spiritual wisdom which are absent in normal adventure travel stories.This book inspires encourages reader to think and question about life and questions that no one want to ask or answerGreat read indeed.

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