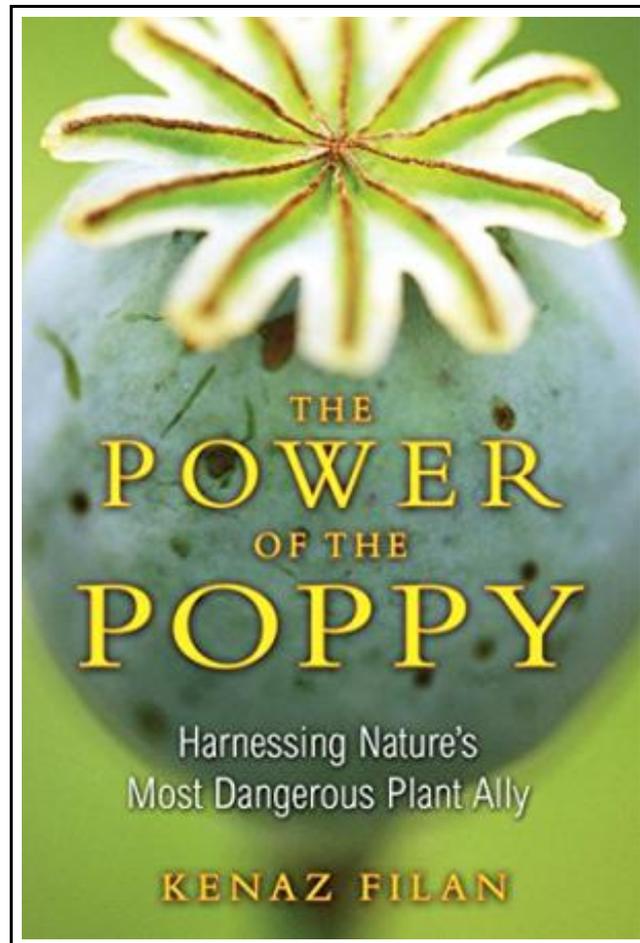


The Power of the Poppy: Harnessing Nature's Most Dangerous Plant Ally



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THE POWER OF THE POPPY: HARNESSING NATURE'S MOST DANGEROUS PLANT ALLY

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Inner Traditions Bear and Company. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Power of the Poppy: Harnessing Nature's Most Dangerous Plant Ally, Kenaz Filan, Few plant allies have a history as long and well-documented as *Papaver somniferum*, the celebrated and infamous opium poppy. For thousands of years people around the world have been unable to resist the poppy's siren song of intoxicating pleasure, pain relief, and visionary states--so much so that this potent plant has literally adapted itself to human civilization: in increasing its intoxicating properties, it came to rely solely on humankind for its propagation. From 6,000-year-old poppy seeds found in archaeological digs in Europe to the black tar heroin factories of South America and the modern "War on Drugs," Kenaz Filan explores the history of this enduring plant and its many derivatives--including opium, morphine, oxycodone, methadone, and fentanyl--as well as its symbiotic relationship with humans as medicine, food, intoxicant, and visionary tool. Profiling 11 famous users including Thomas de Quincey, William S. Burroughs, Lou Reed, and DJ Screw, Filan examines how opium and other poppy derivatives inspired them as well as the high price it exacted for its inspiration. Covering techniques of cultivation, extraction, and safe consumption along with methods for overcoming addiction and staying "clean," this book offers a sensible approach to the poppy that recognizes the plant not as a crop to be harvested or eradicated but as a living, sentient ally that can offer healing or harm and must be approached with respect and caution.



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