

*The Celestine Prophecy*, James Redfield

The Celestine Prophecy by James Redfield is by far the most insightful and thought-provoking book I have ever read. Redfield opens up a world in which every individual is invited to look around themselves, within themselves, and within others. This novel maps out nine “insights,” explained in an ancient Peruvian manuscript, that urge the reader to feel connected to everyone and witness the coincidences in everyday life. The Celestine prophecy advocates the idea that no matter what specific god a person believes in, there are many paths to achieve the same result, and we are all part of a greater purpose.

By reading this novel, I gained insights to a world I had once had my eyes closed to. I found myself amazed by the universe and appreciative of everyday occurrences that came together for a higher purpose. The first “insight” in The Celestine Prophecy occurs when we notice coincidences happening all the time and feel them pulling us in a direction towards spiritual enlightenment. After I absorbed this insight into my life, I realized that I would experience several coincidences every day! I felt these coincidences moving me in a direction towards spiritual awareness. The second insight that Redfield identifies is based on an awareness of the history of spirituality, and the idea that religion must be lived rather than taught. Everyone needs to experience spirituality in their own way in order to feel aware. This insight confirmed my disdain for taught religion, and secured my idea that spiritual awareness presents a unique path for each of us to take individually.

The third insight (which happens to be my favorite insight), in The Celestine Prophecy is all about energy. It’s about feeling what’s magnificent out in the world and opening our energy

to the universe. This insight urges the reader to open up to the beautiful energy of the world and take a step back to become aware of the energy of others. I love this insight because it brings up the idea that whenever you “run in to someone” at the store, coffee shop, or where ever it is, it is because one of you has a message for the other. It may be something simple like an update on each other’s jobs, or it could end up being a connection you can make to further your spiritual awareness (perhaps directions to a prayer circle or meditation service!). These encounters are never coincidences; they are lines on your map to awareness! My life has been changed so much because of this insight. Whenever I “run in to someone” I wasn’t expecting to, or I arbitrarily think about calling someone, I keep my soul focused on what message I could be receiving or what message I might have to give to them.

The fourth through eighth insights talk about “control dramas” and the way humans will always have an urge to control others in a situation. They talk about the correct way to treat children and to respect other human beings as you’d like to be respected yourself. These insights are so great because they expand on the thought that in order for the human race to get along, we need to respect everyone and do not try to dominate them with our energy. Peace can be attained once everyone respects each person, and treats everyone with sensitivity and care. I have been changed by these insights immensely because I believe everyone deserves respect and kindness, especially during the times we are living in. Today, we are very caught up in our differences in religion, race, ethnicity, and political beliefs. If we could all just respect each other’s ideas and always be kind, we could live in harmony with each other.

James Redfield’s last insight is about the evolution of mankind and spiritual awareness. It’s about having a sense of purpose in our lives and gaining spiritual strength. We need to

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believe that our spiritual and intellectual evolution is in our own hands and the time to change is now. The human race has a boundless opportunity to evolve through knowledge and awareness of our own spirituality. The Celestine Prophecy has brought a beautiful change upon the way I interact with others and kick-started my journey for spirituality. Its contributions to my current life are endless, and the insight into my spirituality was the greatest gift a book has ever provided me.