



*Getting to know the Authors of*

## **Soul Whispers III**

*Soul Wisdom for Living the Life of Your Dreams*



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**SWP: Where are you from? Have you always lived where you live now?**

I was born and brought up in the Netherlands, and traveling has been one of my dreams for as long as I can remember. When I was 18, I moved to Finland on my own, without ever having been there or knowing anyone or speaking the language. That was the first of many international adventures. Since then I have lived in Germany, India, the Philippines and Ireland, and earlier this year my husband (who is Spanish) and I moved to Silicon Valley in California.

**SWP: What is your favorite quote, by whom, and why?**

“Don't ask yourself what the world needs; ask yourself what makes you come alive. And then go and do that. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.” - Howard Thurman. We often think that wanting to be happy is selfish, that we have many responsibilities that are more important than finding our own happiness. This quote reminds me that discovering what makes us come alive isn't a luxury we can't afford, it's a necessity! Because the more people feel happy, the better a place this world becomes.

**SWP: When and why did you begin writing?**

When I was nine, my parents bought a typewriter, so my sister and I could learn how to type. I remember one evening I sat down at the kitchen table and wrote my first ever poem. It was about nature and how we all need to take care of it. Every two lines rhymed, because that's what I thought poems were like. Typing with just two fingers, I was so proud when I had finished it. My dad was very supportive and suggested I bring it to the local paper, who were so kind to publish it the next week. I decided then and there that I was going to be a writer and a biologist when I grew up.

**SWP: What inspired you to write your chapter for Soul Whispers III?**

The moment I read what Soul Whispers III was going to be about, inviting the future of your dreams, I got so excited I was literally dancing! All I could think was “Yes! Yes! This is something I would love to write about!” It felt like a great big yes to me, and when something makes me feel so alive, I just have to do it.

**SWP: Why did you choose to write this particular chapter?**

I wanted to share the story of how I invited a certain part of my future, to show others who might be in a similar place as I was then the tools I used to shift things around. I firmly believe in the magic that happens when you make your desires visible and tangible like that and when you take a stand for them.

**SWP: What books have most influenced your life?**

I was one of those kids who read in bed with a flashlight under the covers, books have influenced me at every stage in my life. One of the books that had and still has a major impact on me is *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho. I first read it when I was in my early twenties and it had such a deep impact on me.

When I was in India, I even brought it with me to the desert, because a big part of the story takes place in the desert. It definitely encouraged me to find my own Personal Legend and to listen to my heart and it's a book I read and refer back to often.

**SWP: Where can we purchase the book?**

You can buy the book from my website [www.loesvanmierlo.com](http://www.loesvanmierlo.com) and I will sign it and infuse it with love before sending it to you.