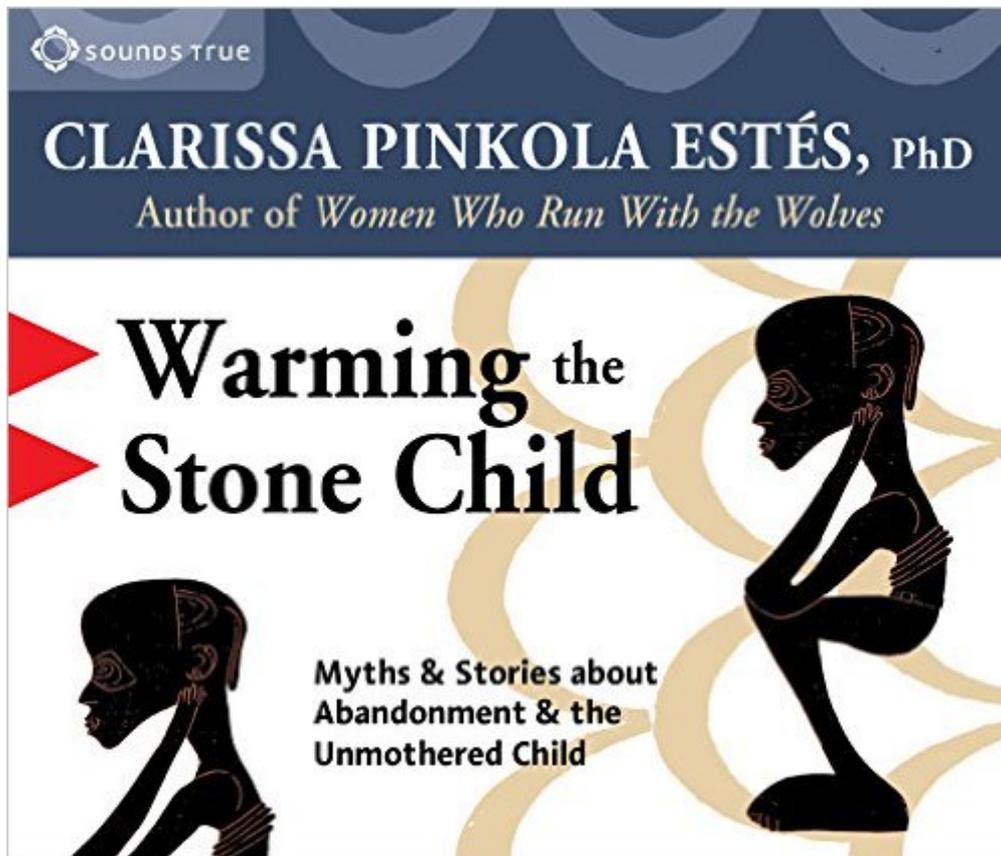


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# Warming The Stone Child: Myths & Stories About Abandonment And The Unmothered Child



## Synopsis

On *Warming the Stone Child*, Dr. Clarissa Pinkola Estés leads us past the gates of the conscious mind to discover the unmothered child within. Along the way, this gifted storyteller and Jungian psychoanalyst instructs us about the psychology of abandonment in childhood, how it affects us in later life, and its curiously special gifts and powers. Drawing from many world cultures, Dr. Estés has gathered a collection of deep myths, fables, and fairy tales with the adult listener in mind. Her storytelling creates a compelling picture of the orphan figure through the ages, while helping us understand the meaning of preadolescent abandonment in our own lives. Spiced with wonderful storytelling, *Warming The Stone Child* is a unique listening experience with a practical edge.

Highlights: Inuit fable of the Stone Child; symptoms of the adult "abandoned child"; the story of the Little Red Cap; English tale of the Stolen Woman Moon; the four types of abandonment; re-creating the inner mother, and much more.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I got *Warming the Stone Child* after reading *Women Who Run With the Wolves* (another great title by Clarissa Pinkola Estes). It is really superb. The author address the unique pain that accompanies being an unmothered child. She shows how this pain, left undealt with, can affect us for a lifetime. She also acknowledges those many people who have felt that while they were not physically abandoned, they were still unmothered (something our culture has been slow to do). Using archetypal myths and storytelling the author helps us to first identify ourselves within the myths - and then identify coping mechanisms that we can take for ourselves out of the myths. A really nice

addition, she also helps us to identify the special and unique gifts that come out of being an unmothered child. Specifically, and often referenced on the tape, is the gift of powerful intuition. The author speaks to those who, through the pain of their upbringing, developed a highly sensitive trouble or 'BS' monitor. I believe many women will find tons to identify with this in themselves. The audio tape is read by the author, which makes it nice because it feels more like she's talking to you than reading from her book. I listened to this in the car one night going somewhere alone. In the darkness, alone, it had a very ethereal feeling. I would definitely recommend this tape to anyone who has been abandoned or has felt somehow unmothered.

Estes tells several stories that pertain to the orphan, abandoned, neglected, and "unmothered" child. In Jungian analysis, all parts of a dream, fairy tale, or myth are really components of ourselves. We can re-write the ending and claim healing for ourselves by becoming our own Mother. She recounts the English tale of the Stolen Woman Moon, Inuit fable of The Stone Child, Little Red Cap (which is an early version of Little Red Riding Hood), and other stories. She then talks about how, in Jungian analysis, all parts of a dream, fairy tale, or myth, are really components of ourselves. Estes also mentions that the fairy tales and stories we strongly identify with, especially as children, become a type of script for many of us--myths for our own life. If the story doesn't have a happy ending traditionally, we need to change the ending of how we want the "tale" to turn out in our own lives. Of all the stories on the tape, it was the last story that moved me the most, though. She shares that the story of the Lost Dog, which was her favorite growing up. The lost dog goes wandering from house to house, looking for a home. The dog gets chased away, yelled at, and so on. No one wants to dog around, let alone make him a part of the family. The dog is so weary and feels so alone. He then sees a house at the end of the rail road tracks that has a light burning within. He says to himself in despair This is the last house that I will try. He scratches the door, and it opens. The house is filled with children that were having a birthday party, and they squeal in delight at the presence of the dog--thinking that he was a birthday present. Oh, to be received as if you were a present instead of a scourge or a nuisance! Since all elements of a story/myth are within, and parts, of ourselves, it comes back to becoming your own Mother. Your own welcoming party. Your own celebration. Your own guide, comforter, and nurturer. If you have an internal wounded, abandoned, orphaned, or neglected child, realize that you can "grow your own Mother" inside. A partially burned piece of wood always has an ember inside, waiting for a wind to blow on it and coax it to become a flame once again. There is a part of you that can Mother--the child within. When we turn to our inner child, nurturing it and loving it, we heal the child, the inner Mother, and the other parts of ourselves, as

well. One of the words for God in the Old Testament is El Shaddai, and in the Hebrew, this is a feminine word that literally means "Many-breasted One". There is a Mother heart of God, not matter which way you choose to connect with this Source or Divinity--or what you choose to call it. Something beyond us that is loving, nurturing, caring, and safe.

A 22 years old stone child from Miami! I am a typical example of an Unmothered Child. When I was a kid, I did not receive guidance and love neither from my mother, father and sisters. I did not receive affection, hugs and kisses from them just because I was different in many ways. As a result, since the age of 2, my innocence was taken away from me and I became a victim of sexual abuse and humiliation for a period of 7 years caused by several cousins and members of my family. They wanted to sniff out my love..the love of a real dolphin heart. But despite of so much pain, I have healed and I learned to have compassion towards others. I fought against everybody to defend whom I am...to be accepted with my beliefs and desires and not change them to accommodate other people's happiness without considering mine first. As a result, my internal light is stronger than a 100 bulb because I did not fall down and I thrived to be who I wanted to be and thanks to Warming the Stone Child, I was re-born again because this tape has changed my life completely. Now, I have the tools to develop an internal mother within myself by knowing what I did not have in the past...what I have now and what I need know in order to be in balance with myself....the secret is simple...as Clarissa Pinkola Estes said, "in order to grow an internal mother, you have to be willing to be decent and good to yourself;" and this the key in order to move on and learn how to love yourself and others. With love, Carlos

Dr. Clarissa Pinkola Estes gives advice and support to the unmothered child in all of us (some of us are more "unmothered" than others -- this audiobook is especially for us). She teaches through age-old stories, fables and themes found in many cultures throughout the world. She gently explains how there always remains a spark within the most burnt-out life. She explains how the unmothered child is specially equipped with intuition, coping skills and defensive mechanisms which can shape an artistic and intellectual life (as well as drive one into a bad or destructive relationship). In short, she points out the gifts and blessings of the unmothered child, as well as the handicaps. There are two take-home messages from this tape: parents, please love, shield and care for your offspring and find as many ways as possible to express that love, and 2) no matter how lonely and unsafe the past was, it need not doom the present or future.

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