



The Great Coming Out

Stepping Into Our Roles as Prophets and Mystics

a workshop with author/activist

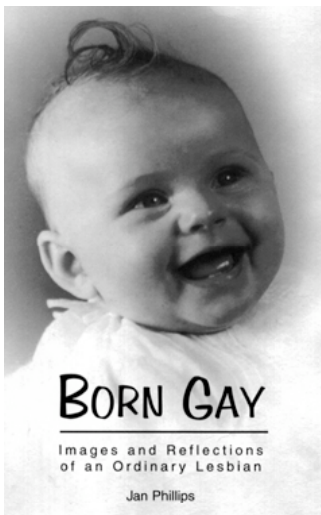
Jan Phillips

for the gay/lesbian community

“Coming out is never a casual act. It is an act of faith. A commitment to authenticity. A personal risk and political act. If things are to change, it will be because we have dared to be true to ourselves, and true to our calling as mystics and prophets.

If every one of us woke up one morning and announced ourselves to the world, the planet would tremble with the force of that courage. The future is in our hands, our voices, our minds. We are co-creating this culture, shaping the contours of each day with our thoughts, actions, and passions. To me, the greatest challenge of our lives is to be true— to ourselves and to the journey we have come here to make.”

-from *Born Gay*



Jan is the author of *Born Gay: Images and Reflections of an Ordinary Lesbian*. She has also written the award-winning *The Art of Original Thinking—The Making of a Thought Leader*, *Divining the Body*, *God Is at Eye Level*, *Marry Your Muse*, and *Making Peace: One Woman's Journey Around the World*. She has produced 2 CDs of original music and several short films and is a co-founder of Syracuse Cultural Workers. She has taught in over 23 countries and her work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Ms.*, *Newsday*, *People*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *New Age Journal*, *National Catholic Reporter*.

As our institutions of cultural and religious tradition are buffeted and challenged by the winds of change, profound questions arise for us as people of faith:

- *How do I create a spirituality that is authentic, immanent and transcendent enough to sustain me as I release myself from the grip of dogma and creed?*
- *How do I express and enact this spiritual practice into the world so that it becomes not just the path I walk, but the talk I talk?*
- *How do I move from conditioned, dualistic thought patterns into original thinking that is unifying, meaningful and supportive to the well-being of myself, others, and the planet?*

This retreat is a multi-media, multi-sensory experience that will help us probe these mysteries and step into our self-defined futures as a faith-filled, culture-creating community.