



## Interview with Gini: a Behind the Scenes Look at the Magical Theatre

*Q: So, Gini, tell us about "Dreaming Down Heaven."*

A: Well, the most important thing to know is that this is really two books in one volume. The first is the fictional adventure of Gigi.

Lenox, a 30-something once very-together New Yorker who's life has come spectacularly undone. Relationship, job, money—everything is kaput. But instead of going for retail therapy as some of us have been known to do, Gigi finds herself in a musty old book shoppe, drawn to a little book, titled *Dreaming Down Heaven*, written by someone named Maya.

Gigi takes the book home on a whim and falls asleep reading it, and like Alice in Wonderland, is catapulted into an outrageous mysterious adventure. Gigi's journey takes her to the Magical Theatre run by Maya, the magnificent Goddess of Illusion, who has created a dream-time remedial angel training program based on her 12 Keystones to bring us back to our authentic nature.

Gigi reluctantly embarks on the training and encounters adventures and tasks where she has to find her way out of the same challenges all of us face on our quest for happiness. Her adventures which include skydiving and a very hunky cowboy from NM are guided by the wisdom in Maya's Twelve Keystones.

And when Gigi wakes up from her dream, she finds the Twelve Keystones are right there to guide her through her daily life in that strange little book she'd discovered, *Dreaming Down Heaven*. The bonus is that Maya's Twelve Keystones form the second book in this volume, and so we, the readers, receive their guidance as well.

*Q: Why did you decide to create a book with this unusual format?*

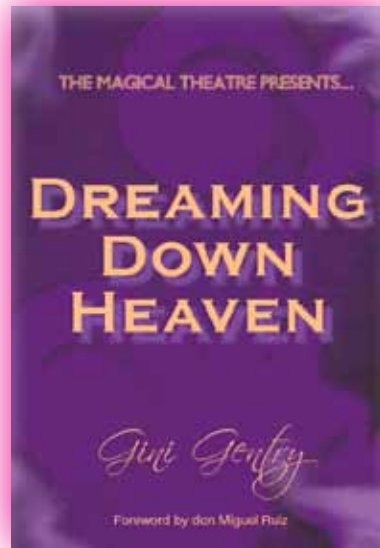
There is a lot of literature out there that offers guidance for those of us on a spiritual quest. My mentor, Don Miguel Ruiz's *Four Agreements*, is one remarkable example. But few of those books speak directly to contemporary women, or offer teachings that can be thoughtfully incorporated into

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a modern woman's often too-busy and demanding life. By creating the fictional character of Gigi, whose life embodies so many of the challenges and disappointments modern women face, I have given all of us a door to enter what has been an esoteric world. Using the conventions of chick-lit to frame this story I've made "enlightenment" more accessible. I think it's Lynn Andrews, who wrote the Medicine Woman series, who said about Dreaming Down Heaven that it "puts the light back into enlightenment."

*Q: Will Gigi have more adventures? Will there be a sequel?*

(Laugh.) We'll see. But you know, the process of awakening never ends. It's a glorious journey we all get to make in this lifetime, so I wouldn't be surprised to see Gigi again. After all, we have to find out what happens with that cowboy...



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