

Shekhinah in the Kabbalah

Tirzah Firestone, author and founding rabbi of the Jewish Renewal Community of Boulder calls the reintroduction of the Kabbalah, which helped American Jews recover Shekhinah, **“a unique phenomenon in Jewish history.”** According to Firestone, the new translations of Kabbalistic texts brought Shekhinah to life for modern Jews. **“Texts that had been exclusively in the hands of a male elite were now available (in paperback!) for Jewish women, as well as for all interested people.”**

“Women's entrance into the world of Jewish leadership began in 1972 with the first female rabbinic ordination in America,” Firestone explains, **“but now the doors to esoteric Judaism were unlocked, and with Kabbalah came confirmation of Shekhinah’s presence.”**



Tirzah Firestone

Translations of the Kabbalistic texts gave us all manner of new metaphors describing the feminine face of God. She appears as queen, princess, the sea, the moon, the bride, the apple orchard in full blossom, the garden, and the gazelle.”