



Hillcreek Yarn Shoppe, Parkade Shopping Center
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Preview of New Book by Carol Leigh

Nature Provides

Not just food, shelter, fibers for clothes, and medicine, but also

Dyes for a Rainbow of Color

A workshop approach to achieving many colors from each dye plant

This is the working title for my book on natural dyeing. Over the years I have offered essentially three different workshops on natural dyes: Missouri Dye Plants, Ancient Dyes, and Lesser Known Ancient Dyes. We use about eight dyes in each workshop with the goal being to achieve a full color spectrum. We use different mordanting preparation for cellulose and protein fibers for better color retention. And we use various mineral salts to bring out nuances of these colors. Some nuances are minor, but others are dramatic. Each color is washed, rinsed and dried before cataloguing. Students go home with a file folder for each dye on wool roving, raw silk fabric, and cotton muslin. Over 60 colors are achieved in each two-day workshop.

This book will detail the process and colors achieved in each workshop, so others may conduct similar workshops, or obtain individual colors on their own.

As you know, as with the *Continuous Strand Weaving Method* book, I can't focus on writing amidst the constant interruptions at home and studio, so I am disappearing for three weeks in May to work in Florida with my photographer Rose, who has all the pictures for the Missouri Dye Plants. I have the pictures taken for the Lesser Known Ancient Dyes, and we'll still need pictures for the Ancient Dyes. I'm not a techy, so she'll help with picture editing, inserting pictures, and page layout.

This book, hopefully, won't take near as long to produce as the last one (16 years). I'm anticipating availability in 2015.

Colorfully Yours, Carol Leigh