

TEA WAYFARERS

From now on, we plan to introduce one of the Global Tea Hut members to you each month in these newsletters. We hope that this helps us all get to know each other better. It's also to pay homage to the many manifestations that all this wonderful spirit and tea are becoming, as the tea is drunk and becomes human. The energy of the tea fuels some great work in this world, and we are so honored to show you some glimpses of such beautiful people and their tea. We thought we'd introduce you to the amazing Skylar Rote.

I am a Woman of all trades. I live in Sunny Santa Monica, CA. I work in commercial casting, art, yoga, pilates, energetic healing. I am most happy drinking tea and creating beauty, weather in my designs or at the store in conversation with a stranger. I love to inspire the world around me.

Each morning I brew a bowl, I imagine where all of my tea brothers and sisters are sitting, what all of your stories are....

For me all it took was one bowl... all paths lead to the moment I first reunited with leaves and water: Staring into a deep lifetime of thoughts and memories. There were tears of joy and inspiration, and spurts of child like laughter. I left asking everyone I know, "Have you ever had a bowl of tea?"

I have found that tea connects all. It provides a door to the Divine temple within us, a place to find truth and wisdom and always a home. It answers all questions my heart needs to know, often washing away the ones that aren't important. It asks me to let go of my mind and open my heart—to connect with my true self, even if just for that moment in time.

Connection: often in life we forget that the most beautiful things are generally right in front of us; that in each moment something new awaits and there is so much Divine beauty to explore in that. Tea reminds us of the present moment, it quiets the distraction of our daily noise and brings the Zen into our breath.

I have just returned home to LA from almost 3 weeks with Wu De in Taiwan. So many times we spoke about "Why Taiwan?" The answer is there in everything. The tea speaks the truth of its roots and the air shares its clarity. The sky expands to welcome us all home. The people are full of love and the fruit is deliciously sweet. The water is pure and the tradition so alive. The coals are always burning, water always warming, tea always steeping. No matter how far away we may be we are all the roots of the tree in the center of the Tea Sage Hut.

With this knowing and each morning bowl, I am reminded of what really matters in life. It brings me home, closer to the sky and the leaves, and deeply grounded within the heart of the roots.

We are all tea and tea is us all.

I am so blessed to have so many beautiful Tea brother and sisters. My heart goes to you all this month as we share a bowl of tea from afar!

