

Hidden Traditions of the Apache Scout and Ninja

Re-Awaken Your Sixth Sense

By Randy Walker Jr. & Rien de Rooij

~90,000 WORDS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE) · NONFICTION / PRACTICAL WISDOM · TARGETING FALL 2027

Seventy combined years inside two living lineages — the Bujinkan Dojo of Dr. Masaaki Hatsumi in Noda, Japan, and the Tracker School of Tom Brown Jr., mentored by Apache elder Stalking Wolf — converge in a single, forgotten discipline: a trainable sixth sense for danger, presence, and place. Written from inside both traditions by two authors who have spent three to four decades apiece in them.

COMPARABLE TITLES

The Comfort Crisis — Michael Easter (Rodale/Harmony, 2021; New York Times bestseller; author of the also-bestselling *Scarcity Brain*)

The strongest recency signal available: proof there's a hungry mainstream market right now for "primal capacity is recoverable and trainable" nonfiction — close kin to this book's core claim, even though Easter's angle is discomfort and wildness rather than danger-sensing specifically.

The Art of Learning — Josh Waitzkin (Free Press, 2007; 500,000+ copies sold)

Traces mastery as a transferable state of mind across two disciplines. *Hidden Traditions* makes a structurally similar case — the same "sixth sense" independently arrived at by two unrelated lineages — grounded in two authors' lived apprenticeships rather than one author's sequential pursuits.

Left of Bang — Van Horne & Riley (Black Irish Entertainment, 2014; perennial backlist seller)

Repackaged a specialized military observation method as a trainable skill for general readers. *Hidden Traditions* does the same for ninjutsu and the way of the scout — showing the awareness training underneath is systematic and teachable well outside combat or wilderness contexts.

The Gift of Fear — Gavin de Becker (Dell, 1997; multi-million-copy backlist)

Cited primarily to signal audience size: there is a large mainstream readership for "intuition as a learnable safety skill" well outside martial arts or military niches.

Angry White Pyjamas — Robert Twigger (Indigo, 1997; Somerset Maugham Award)

The closest tonal comp for the ninjutsu strand — an outsider's immersive year inside an elite Japanese martial discipline. Useful for the memoir/cultural-immersion voice alongside the book's thesis-driven structure.

PLATFORM

Both authors publish original, researched essays on the book's Notes page (hiddentritionsbook.com/notes.html) — on the history behind the manuscript's key figures and the practices at its core — building an audience ahead of publication.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Randy Walker Jr.

TRACKER SCHOOL · APACHE SCOUT LINEAGE

Three decades studying under Tom Brown Jr. at the Tracker School, carrying forward the teachings of Apache elder Stalking Wolf and the Southern Lipan Apache scout lineage.

Rien de Rooij

BUJINKAN NINJUTSU

Four decades training in the Bujinkan under Dr. Masaaki Hatsumi at the Noda dojo, tracing back through Takamatsu Toshitsugu — and, alongside Randy, three decades as a student of Tom Brown Jr. at the Tracker School. Holds an M.A. in Japanology.