In the process of writing the book, we realized we were fleshing out new ways of looking at creativity, new lenses informed by our mutual backgrounds in depth psychology. We compiled these lenses into “The Fifteen Principles of Deep Creativity.” We chose the word *principles* to suggest our fundamental thoughts, the underpinnings of the union of depth psychology and creativity. These are themes rather than definitions; these are convictions rather than truths; these are perspectives rather than facts. They are the way we see the creative world and our place within it, and we offer that vision to you.

1. ***Deep creativity is idiosyncratic*.** We are each unique, even peculiar beings, and our creativity is heightened when we express our individual voice and vision.
2. ***Deep creativity is archetypal.*** Within our individual psyches live deeply etched universal, mythological patterns, and our creativity is enriched when we enter into more conscious partnership with those patterns.
3. ***Deep creativity is alchemical*.** We transform ourselves as we create the world anew and renew the world as we recreate ourselves.
4. ***Deep creativity is receptive****.* We breathe in the world, taking everything in, opening ourselves to the grace of inspiration.
5. ***Deep creativity is responsive.***We also breathe out, offering our own creative responses in gratitude for all we have received.
6. ***Deep creativity is emotional.***When we are moved emotionally, we move to create, and we are often moved by creativity itself in all its expressive manifestations.
7. ***Deep creativity is healing****.* Our creative acts may heal ourselves; when we share our creative products, they may be healing for others.
8. ***Deep creativity is aesthetic.*** We pay special attention to where beauty calls us, and we hear her call everywhere.
9. ***Deep creativity is autonomous.*** Our psyches create all the time and often much to our surprise.
10. ***Deep creativity is attentive.*** What we see is what we get to create with; therefore, we extend the breadth and depth of field of our attention.
11. ***Deep creativity is mysterious.*** We are partially unconscious human beings, a mystery to even ourselves at times, creating in partnership with the Great Mystery.
12. ***Deep creativity is participatory.*** Call it God, call it the gods or goddesses, call it the Muse, the Force, the Source, the Universe—whatever you call it, it creates along with us; we do not create alone.
13. ***Deep creativity is reciprocal.*** We are both subject and object, both seer and seen, creating with and for a Thou who is creating with and for our I.
14. ***Deep creativity is embodied.*** When we come to creativity, we come with our senses, and we come to our senses.
15. ***Deep creativity is ensouled.*** We are ensouled beings creating with and within an ensouled world.