



Beauty: The Invisible Embrace

By John O'Donohue

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Beauty: The Invisible Embrace By John O'Donohue

Beauty does not linger, it only visits.
Yet beauty's visitation affects us and invites us into its rhythm,
it calls us to feel, think, and act beautifully in the world:
to create and live a life that awakens the Beautiful.

Beauty is a gentle but urgent call to awaken. Bestselling author John O'Donohue opens our eyes, hearts, and minds to the wonder of our own relationship with beauty by exposing the infinity and mystery of its breadth. His words return us to the dignity of silence, profundity of stillness, power of thought and perception, and the eternal grace and generosity of beauty's presence. In this masterful and revelatory work, O'Donohue encourages our greater intimacy with beauty and celebrates it for what it really is: a homecoming of the human spirit. As he focuses on the classical, medieval, and Celtic traditions of art, music, literature, nature, and language, O'Donohue reveals how beauty's invisible embrace invites us toward new heights of passion and creativity even in these uncertain times of global conflict and crisis.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

The author of the bestselling *Anam Cara* hits a lyrical mark again with this book that boldly takes up an eternal verity and ideal—beauty. O'Donohue's premise is urgent and sweeping: "Politics, religion, and economics and the institutions of family and community all have become abruptly unsure. At first, it sounds completely naive to suggest that now might be the time to awaken and invoke beauty. Yet this is exactly the claim that this book explores." And so the author, who has a background in philosophy and has written about Hegel, seeks "intimations" and manifestations of beauty, finding it in music, color and movement, as well as some less likely locations—imperfection and death. Beauty is sensuous and present, but it is also always pointing to the transcendent. Its trail leads to the recognition of God, with O'Donohue quoting the novelist Dostoyevski—"Perhaps it is beauty that will save us in the end"—as well as medieval Christian mystic Meister Eckhart, whose thought he weaves through the book. O'Donohue writes like the poet he is ("Memory is the place where our vanished days secretly gather"), and he generously quotes from other poets across cultures and times. He also liberally draws into his circle of imagination the great philosophers of beauty, from Plato and Aquinas to contemporary German philosopher Hans-Georg Gadamer. The resulting book is a lively and informed discussion among great minds—a digest of provocative views on an inexhaustible and compelling topic. This refreshing book falls like rain on the parched plain of contemporary discourse. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Review

"A thinker who seamlessly weaves philosophy and theology, O'Donohue stops us in our tracks, reminding us that we might be alive for reasons other than productivity or consumption" Sunday Times

About the Author

John O'Donohue was awarded a Ph.D. in philosophical theology from the University of Tübingen in 1990. He is the author of several works, including a book on the philosophy of Hegel, *Person als Vermittlung*; two collections of poetry, *Echoes of Memory* and *Conamara Blues*; and two international bestsellers, *Anam Cara* and *Eternal Echoes*. He lectures and holds workshops in Europe and America, and is currently researching a book on the philosophical mysticism of Meister Eckhart. He lives in Ireland.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Paul Skeens:

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Gary Ackley:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent the entire day to reading a publication. The book Beauty: The Invisible Embrace it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book offers high quality.

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Barbara Morton:

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