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# Quaker Reader



## Synopsis

This book contains over 60 extracts from the writings of members of the Religious Society of Friends from 1650 to 1962. It includes passages from the works of such well-known authors as George Fox, William Penn, Walt Whitman and John Greenleaf Whittier. The passages illuminate both the faith and practice of the Quaker faith throughout the ages.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It isn't easy to find information telling you what Friends believe. Our history is traced primarily through the words of George Fox and John Woolman. Later, here in the US, there were splits dividing believers into liberal and conservative groups. This book does a very good job of giving the reader an understanding of the Quaker faith by offering the reader essays and journal bits from William Penn (a well-known Pennsylvania Friend!) and others, both inside the faith and out. For those interested in the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), those newly convinced, or for those who just like to read about the beginnings and progress of Quakers, The Quaker Reader is a basic for their library. For other books about Quakers, be sure to read Robert L. Smith's *A Quaker Book of Wisdom*; and *The Quakers* by Jean Kinney Williams

This book contains a variety of short essays on Quaker theology and conduct. It also contains important excerpts from the Journal of George Fox. The book specifically and fairly acknowledges the scarcity of Friends' "theology" as an historical matter. However, this is amply supplanted by

readings from the works of William Penn and others who were in a position to speak about the conduct of the Quakers and their effect on those around them. This 'third-person' perspective provides a unique insight into the lives of those known as the 'Quiet Rebels' in early American history and provides for a stimulating and educational reading experience. The editor should be credited with her fine selection of Quaker readings. In short, the book is an excellent survey of Quaker thoughts and actions throughout history. By the time one reaches the end of this book, the reader should find themselves in the rather enjoyable position of feeling as though they know a 'Quaker'.

This book provides a fairly thorough history of the Quaker faith and its evolution over time. While some of the essays are by external observers, the book is mostly writings by Quakers, often in the form of journal excerpts. Pithy and insightful commentary by the editor introduces each writer, the time in which they lived and the issues facing the Religious Society of Friends during that era. I loved this book. It led me to my first Quaker meeting and a faith that is right for me. However, even if you do not find stories or concepts in this book that resonate with your own experience of God, it is worth reading. William Penn (who was a Quaker) and many others less well-known played a far more significant role in the history of the United States than their numbers would suggest.

This is a fine collection of writings from early Quakers to fairly recent times. The reader gets a sense of the times in which Quakerism was developed and also of what made its early practitioners special. This is, in my opinion, a very good source to those new to Quakerism or curious about what it's really about and whence it came. West includes background and analysis for each piece. I would consider this a must-have book for any meeting house library or religious book collection.

This book is a compilation of writings from Quaker mystics. Goes from George Fox in 1600s England to more modern authors in their quest to understand God and social justice. Many members of the "Friends" today are agnostic and interested in only social programs, this book should be required reading for all who aspire to be a good "Quaker" and Christian.

This book helps me learn more about the Quaker religion, essays by the founder George Fox, Margaret Fell, William Penn, Quakers in England and America to

good book on Quaker history from its formation from the beginning. Why they are against war,

slavery. And why they have silent prayer.

I use this for my spiritual enhancement. Wisdom is always on time. And, this collection of wisdom is too.

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