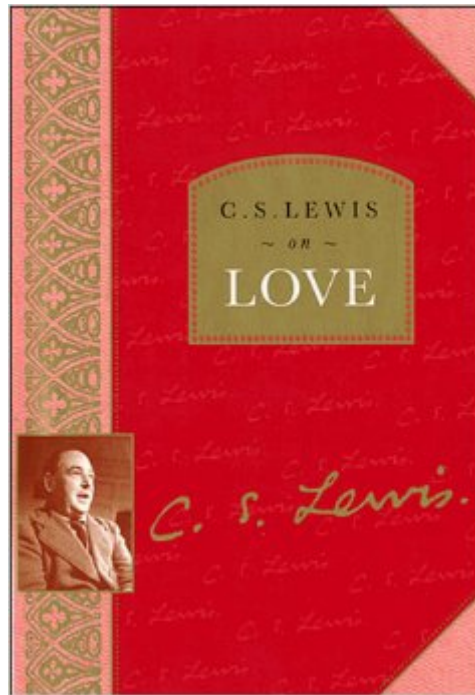


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C. S. Lewis On Love



Synopsis

C.S. Lewis was probably the most popular Christian writer of the twentieth century, and his books are treasured by Christians and non-Christians alike. This beautifully illustrated selection draws together some of his reflections on love and shows the qualities of intelligence, honesty, and humility which made him such a respected teacher.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The central problem I have with these four little volumes, although I must confess to having only seen (and bought) one, rests in the fact they are very short, they do injustice to Lewis's thoughts on the subjects simply because the selection is not wide enough, and, especially on Grief, A GRIEF OBSERVED works so much better as a healing and therapeutic book than this little tome ever could. If you're going to get into C. S. Lewis's thought, even if only a sampler, get something like THE BUSINESS OF HEAVEN or THE ESSENTIAL C. S. LEWIS or THE QUOTABLE LEWIS? Items like these characterize the industry that has grown up around C. S. Lewis: all sorts of merchandise is being published cashing in on Lewis and his life -- with Hooper largely at the back of it. If you want a novelty item (which is all this will ever be) or just a little gift I guess you could buy these, but why not spend a little more and buy a real C. S. Lewis book? They're so much richer!Mike London

How refreshing to read Jack powerful prose revealing the uttermost significance of Love. As always

he surgically peels our emotions, expectations and dissolutions, this time about love. What Love is?, what love is not, what love should be. Reading Jack is like having a conversation with a long dear friend. Add it to your library.

I consider C.S. Lewis to be the finest author of the 20th century, and I think that several of his books are genuine, timeless classics. So, I'm always interested in reading anything that I can find that he's written. And there is a thriving publishing industry of collections of snippets from Lewis, some of which are fabulous and others which are mostly forgettable. "C.S. Lewis on Love" falls primarily in the latter, though it is not entirely without commendation. This book is a compilation of a few dozen blurbs from Lewis about love, related to various sub-themes (marriage, sex, friendship, forgiveness, etc.) But some problems with this format temper my enthusiasm for this project. First, Lewis writes with such depth and complexity that he is not easily excerpted. And as the editor acknowledges in the preface, love is not a topic on which Lewis necessarily wrote with great focus and frequency, at least not in excerpt-able form. To be sure, love is integrated within most of his writing, but in a way that requires greater space and depth than what can be pulled out in a paragraph or two. Lewis offered reflections about love in a much more organic way than what can be readily sliced and diced into a "greatest quotes" collection. The two major places where he wrote about love are the books "The Four Loves" and "Mere Christianity," and not surprisingly, those sources offer the vast majority of quotes in this book. And the quotes that emerge from those two books are wonderful, several of which I cite with regularity in my preaching and even general conversation. But, as is always the case with excerpts, the power of those quotes is somewhat mitigated by their removal from context. Frankly, I'd encourage anyone to read the original books. "Mere Christianity" is one of the finest books that I've ever read, and "The Four Loves," though decidedly less remarkable, offers many helpful contributions to my understanding of love. Beyond the excerpts from those two books, many of the other snippets are really quite forgettable, further validating that love simply was not a theme about which Lewis spent much focused and isolated attention. Having offered my critique, there is no doubt that Lewis' unique and brilliant way of articulating godly and helpful insight about so many topics is not lost in this book. Lewis has some great stuff to say about love. So, if you need a quick entry point into Lewis, this isn't a terrible place to start. And if you want a coffee table book or a book to place in a waiting room or a bathroom for short bursts of reading, this offers some fabulous soundbites of Lewis' profundity. But if you really want to dig into C.S. Lewis, you really ought to start with "Mere Christianity," then move on to "The Screwtape Letters," "The Great Divorce," and any of his other classic works. Time spent with the words of C.S. Lewis is always time well spent.

Although this book couldn't possibly go into very much depth on the thoughts of love, the editor has managed to select some very thought provoking passages. I like it!

Good read for daily reflection

Really enjoyed this great read!

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