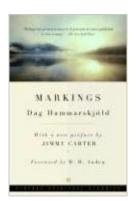
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Markings





Synopsis

Universally known and admired as a peacemaker, Dag HammarskjŶld concealed a remarkable intense inner life which he recorded over several decades in this journal of poems and spiritual meditations, left to be published after his death. A dramatic account of spiritual struggle, Markings has inspired hundreds of thousands of readers since it was first published in 1964.Markings is distinctive, as W.H. Auden remarks in his foreword, as a record of "the attempt by a professional man of action to unite in one life the via activa and the via contemplativa." It reflects its author's efforts to live his creed, his belief that all men are equally the children of God and that faith and love require of him a life of selfless service to others. For Hammarskjöld, "the road to holiness necessarily passes through the world of action." Markings is not only a fascinating glimpse of the mind of a great man, but also a moving spiritual classic that has left its mark on generations of readers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is the most illuminating book I have ever read, bar none. I have gone through over twenty copies in the past 15 years as I find them, order more, and hand them out to my loved ones or leave them in places for others to 'discover'. I learned about this book in high school and have turned to it countless times over the years in good times and in bad, over and over, and it is like a diamond each time that I open it I am privy to another sparkle. Also, over the years, I have learned more and more about Dag Hammarskjold. I have since read his biography by Urquhart and other pieces of a biographical nature by other Hammarskjold fans and devotees. His example, as a civil servant and

soldier of peace, have inspired my own pacifism, and his example has led me to more 'vistas of insight' than any other. Dag Hammarskjold was a unprepossessing Swedish civil servant when his name was selected to and vetted and eventually elected to become the second Secretary-General of the United Nations. Kofi Annan, a successor of his, called him the 'lodestar' of his profession. He did more to build the stability and future of a peaceful world than anyone I am aware of before or since. And without fanfare. But his was a lonely existence, punctuated with episodes of depression and spiritual yearning as he struggled to make sense of his duty and life. He thought about death often; it is reflected in this, his most intimate and searching journal. It was only published after his death while on a mission of peace to the Congo. He died in a fireball over an Africa he was trying desperately to understand, and heal. He died too early. He is mourned by those who knew him, friends and enemies - they all attended his funeral and said words that surely he would never have expected.

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