

Foreword Review RELIGION

Meister Eckhart's Book of Secrets: Meditations on Letting Go and Finding True Freedom

Mark S. Burrows Jon M. Sweeney Hampton Roads Publishing (Oct 1, 2019) Softcover \$16.95 (240pp) 978-1-57174-847-8

Medieval Europe isn't recognized for being particularly adventurous in spiritual matters. Dank monasteries, cavernous cathedrals, and plague pandemics seemed to stoicize the mind—though not in the case of Johannes Eckhart, a thirteenth century Dominican theologian who wrote in German and transcended his era with brilliant treatises on seeking peace of mind, contentment, and absolute freedom through the process of letting go of desires:

If you want to reach the highest wisdom, refuse everything you know, abandon all you aspire to be, and seek the darkness of the lowest place of all. Become nothing, and there God will pour out the whole of himself, who is All, with all his strength, and you will see in the light you long for.

Christian through and through, with a mystical bent, Eckhart earned a following from the likes of Erich Fromm, D. T. Suzuki, Rudolf Steiner, Richard Rohr, and many others across the religious spectrum. This superb new translation modernizes Eckhart's writings into short poems for contemporary seekers. In their introduction, Mark Burrows and Jon Sweeney invite readers to discover the secrets of the Meister's teachings, which draw "on perennial truths that point to what Eckhart called the 'pathless path,' which alone can lead us into true freedom."

MATT SUTHERLAND (September / October 2019)

Disclosure: This article is not an endorsement, but a review. The publisher of this book provided free copies of the book to have their book reviewed by a professional reviewer. No fee was paid by the publisher for this review. Foreword Reviews only recommends books that we love. Foreword Magazine, Inc. is disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.