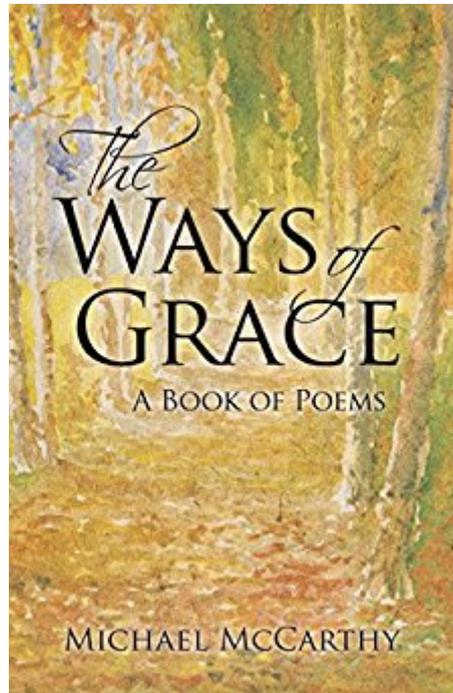


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The Ways Of Grace: A Book Of Poems



Synopsis

“Poetry enables the reader to see differently, deeper, reverently ... Michael McCarthy’s writings take the reader inside family, nature, sports, work, and life and death to see the hidden sacred, beauty, and spirit. Read *The Ways of Grace* slowly, imagine the scenes, and immerse in the mystery therein. Allow yourself to see differently.” — Robert J. McCarty, Author of *Raising Happy, Healthy, and Holy Teenagers: A Primer for Parents*

“Michael McCarthy’s poems are like fine Shaker furniture: solid, graceful, clean lines and a simple honesty that are a pleasure to behold. These poems have a functional durability; my friends, family and students have been sitting with them for years.” — Phil Marinelli, High School Teacher and Life Coach

“Truly Michael McCarthy has given us a beautiful collection of poems that are both accessible and deep. Each poem reveals the mystery of grace hidden in the ordinary. ‘It’s All Here,’ as he says. And he asks, ‘What about you?’ Will you enter into the ‘true communion’ of friendship and life? This book is a grace, drawing us into the mystery.” — Connie Loos, Chair of the Religious Studies Department, St. John the Baptist High School

“From the loss of love, to a single, yellow flower screaming out to be seen, to the deepness of a tree’s roots, *The Ways of Grace* challenges us to take time to notice the beauty, pain, immensity, and love in the very small moments of our lives. Read this collection of poems and you will want to notice more.” — Rob Dircks, Author of *Where the Hell is Tesla?*

Book Information

File Size: 299 KB

Print Length: 89 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Goldfinch Publishing (December 20, 2015)

Publication Date: December 20, 2015

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B019M76T8I

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #5,627 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #1 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Religious & Inspirational #1 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Themes & Styles > Nature #2 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Themes & Styles > Inspirational & Religious

Customer Reviews

Michael McCarthy is a mystic in our midst. His book of poems and haikus capture the essence of the day to day events in our lives and transforms them into opportunities for deeper contemplation. His work is accessible to all and its powerful simplicity is an invitation to look at life in its myriad manifestations and rejoice in being alive! I am honored to have received a copy prior to its official launch date for review. Marie Mackey, CSJ The Mary Louis Academy

Michael McCarthy's *The Ways of Grace: A Book of Poems* is truly a wonderful work of art that inspires us to look at life's journey through the landscapes of wisdom, hope, and love. It is the words and messages of each poem that provide us with renewal and contemplation. While reading the book, I found myself lost in reflection of my own journey and experiences. Poetry has the ability to touch our souls and plant the desire to reach for more. Truly, McCarthy's book is special because it drew me into a world of restoration. We laugh, cry, ache, and grow. We build relationships, some eternal and others lost. We encounter trials and victories. The thing that strikes me the most about his poems is his ability to bring out the commonality we share throughout a diverse body of work. If you are looking for something to lift your spirits, if you are looking for a way to enhance daily reflection, I encourage you to purchase this book. Since being given a free copy, I have turned to Michael McCarthy's poems each day for knowledge and spiritual growth. It will give you a way to look deep within yourself. I will most certainly be purchasing this for family and friends.

Every once in a while we need to stop and reflect on life. *The Ways of Grace*, a collection of poems by Michael McCarthy, gives us that chance. The poems allow us that opportunity to take a moment and read something that makes us feel what it is to live. I find myself going back to individual poems randomly, stopping on one, and taking in how it makes me feel at that point in time. Each poem can reach a different emotion and leave you with a new perspective than before. I would say the ones that touched me the most were *Kindred Souls* and *Home*.

The Ways of Grace is an invitation into possibilities without telling you where to go or how to get there. Michael has the gift of bringing a gentle and inviting light into the conversation - both the inner dialog taking place in our head and heart and the outer dialog with the world. His metaphors and brilliant gift with language invites and gives without directing or telling you where to go. I have read a number of the poems over again while reflecting on different things that grabbed me each time. Thank you Michael for giving us The Ways of Grace and the appreciation for the hidden gifts in our daily lives. You have cloaked our world with a lovely dose of hope and light - and it is a beautiful place.

I was delighted to receive an advanced copy of "The Ways of Grace" by Michael McCarthy. Grace is Divine Presence. Michael's poems have a way of capturing that grace within their simplistic yet powerful lines. Each is relatable while also provoking deep reflection. I was moved by Michael's ability to find grace in some of life's most simple joys that can be so often overlooked. A smile, an ache, a tree: only a few of the small joys Michael crafts to allow readers to re-discover that God's beauty is all around us. It is truly a work of grace! Having recently experienced deep loss, receiving this free review copy was truly a work of grace in my life. Poetry touches the soul, providing the opportunity for healing. Michael's book is doing just that for me. I intend to purchase copies as gifts for family and friends. MH

Michael McCarthy's book of poems, The Ways of Grace, is a beautifully-written example of what poetry is and should be - accessible to all, no matter the differences in our paths. Mr. McCarthy is focused on all aspects of his poetry, giving generous attention to every detail from format and punctuation, to syntax and content. My favorite poem is "Alone", because I am able to feel the true meaning of "being alone" through both my own emotional connection with the poem and its visual cues. The lowercase "i" and the continuous decreases in phrase length successfully aid in making me truly feel the sense of singularity that this poet hopes me to experience. It has been a joy to read Mr. McCarthy's work, and I highly recommend this collection of poems for all. -Kellie, Queens, NY

President John Adams was widely known to have been an independent thinker, close observer of human folly as displayed in everyday life and fired by an inexhaustible love of books and scholarly reflection is quoted to have said to his son "You will never be alone with a poet in your pocket". To that I suggest; you'll be with a friend with "The ways of Grace" in your pocket. Like a true friend

Michael shares his innermost musings and vulnerabilities with refreshing openness and a shining grace. Read how his body encases his soul as a companion of sorts in the poem entitled "Alone" Grateful for the advance free review version and filled with anticipation of having a real copy for my pocket! Robert New Jersey

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