# Sacred Quest The An Invitation To The Study Of Religion

AeneidWhat Color Is the Sacred?River GodBewildered TravelThe Sacred and the SovereignSacred SpaceHeidegger and the Quest for the SacredThe Sacred YesInvitation to World ReligionsBlack Elk SpeaksInvitation to SociologyThe Sacred QuestThe Sacred QuestAnthemA Tender ThingFour SpiritualitiesThe Spiritual QuestSacred CompanionsThe Sacred ChaseThe Sacred QuestThe Sacred QuestThe Call of the Mourning DoveThe Set-Apart WomanLiving ReligionsBook Of Vision QuestThe Satanic VersesArguing the Just War in IslamSacred QuestCrossing to AvalonBraiding SweetgrassGangesSiddharthaThe Second MountainSacred QuestThe Sacred Lies of Minnow BlyThe Ultimate QuestWriting to Wake the SoulThe Genealogical Adam and EveThe Sacred QuestOwl Moon

#### Aeneid

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#### What Color Is the Sacred?

One of the most controversial and acclaimed novels ever written, The Satanic Verses is Salman Rushdie's best-known and most galvanizing book. Set in a modern world filled with both mayhem and miracles, the story begins with a bang: the terrorist bombing of a London-bound jet in midflight. Two Indian actors of opposing sensibilities fall to earth, transformed into  $\frac{Page}{2/25}$ 

living symbols of what is angelic and evil. This is just the initial act in a magnificent odyssey that seamlessly merges the actual with the imagined. A book whose importance is eclipsed only by its quality, The Satanic Verses is a key work of our times.

#### River God

Until September 11th, 2001, few in the West fully appreciated the significance of religion in international politics. The terrible events of that day refocused our attention on how thoroughly religion and politics intermingle, sometimes with horrific results. But must this intermingling always be so deadly? The Sacred and the Sovereign brings together leading voices to consider the roles that religion should—and should not—play in a post-Cold War age distinguished by humanitarian intervention, terrorism, globalization, and challenges to state sovereignty. But these challenges to state sovereignty have deep and abiding roots in religion that invite us to revisit just what values we hold sacred. Offsetting the commonly shared idea that religion is politics' perennial nemesis, this volume demonstrates that religious traditions, institutions, and ideas are essential elements of the political quest for human rights, peace, order, legitimacy, and justice. The Sacred and the Sovereign brings distinguished scholars of religious studies, theology, and politics together with ranking members of the military and government to reflect seriously about where—and if—safe boundaries can be drawn between religion and politics in the international arena.

#### **Bewildered Travel**

A fresh, powerful take on the spiritual life shows readers how to embrace a deep, satisfying relationship with Jesus.

### The Sacred and the Sovereign

Jihad, with its many terrifying associations, is a term widely used today, though its meaning is poorly grasped. How Islam, with more than one billion followers, interprets jihad and establishes its precepts has become a critical issue for both the Muslim and the non-Muslim world. This book provides a systematic account of how Islam's central texts interpret jihad, guiding us through the historical precedents and Qur'anic sources upon which today's claims to doctrinal truth and legitimate authority are made. Making use of original sources, religion professor Kelsay delves into the tradition of shari'a--Islamic jurisprudence and reasoning--and shows how it defines jihad as the Islamic analogue of the Western "just" war. He traces the arguments of thinkers over the centuries who have debated the legitimacy of war, and demonstrates how contemporary Muslims across the political spectrum continue this quest for a realistic ethics of war within the Islamic tradition.--From publisher description.

# Sacred Space

The voice of the Divine is as near to you as your own breath—just ask. That's what Reverend Deborah L. Johnson did in 1995. In a moment of darkness, there was nothing she could do but surrender: "Take me now, oh Lord." Almost instantly she heard whispers—and they turned into more than 300 letters from Spirit. With The Sacred Yes, Rev. Deborah offers 54 of these epistles that provide not only soothing, affirmative wisdom, but words that lift us to our highest place of being. Each letter is a conversation, discrete in its own message, explains Rev. Johnson—whose Omnifaith Inner Light Ministries is the spiritual community of more than 1,500 people. The lessons are universal, addressing the human condition common to us all. They provide solace, insight, and inspiration for our hurts, fears, hopes, hesitations, and aspirations. The Sacred Yes speaks to us individually and collectively, providing new paradigms for our interpersonal relationships, societal institutions, and global affairs. The act of unconditional surrender to the unknown—without reservation or hesitation—is what transforms every circumstance into something that benefits us all. And according to Rev. Deborah L. Johnson, it happens with one sacred word ... Yes. NOTE: Also available on CD

### Heidegger and the Quest for the Sacred

This book provides a thematic and comparative approach to the study of religion. The focus of individual chapters gives equal weight to both theoretical issues and to practices as they are reflected in the major religions of the world. These chapter topics include a definition of religion; the nature, appearance, and language of the sacred; ritual; sacred communities; the problem of evil; religion and morality; and the quest for salvation.

#### The Sacred Yes

A sweeping, interdisciplinary history of the world's third-largest river, a potent symbol across South Asia and the Hindu diaspora Originating in the Himalayas and flowing into the Bay of Bengal, the Ganges is India's most important and sacred river. In this unprecedented work, historian Sudipta Sen tells the story of the Ganges, from the communities that arose on its banks to the merchants that navigated its waters, and the way it came to occupy center stage in the history and culture of the subcontinent. Sen begins his chronicle in prehistoric India, tracing the river's first settlers, its myths of origin in the Hindu tradition, and its significance during the ascendancy of popular Buddhism. In the following centuries, Indian empires, Central Asian regimes, European merchants, the British Empire, and the Indian nation-state all shaped the identity and ecology of the river. Weaving together geography, environmental politics, and religious history, Sen offers in this lavishly illustrated volume a remarkable portrait of one of the world's largest and most densely populated river basins.

### Invitation to World Religions

As humans, it is our trust in something larger than ourselves that invests our lives with meaning and value. We hope that outside the boundaries of everyday living there lies something greater. As Doug Cowan argues, science fiction is the genre of possibility and hope, a principal canvas on which writers, artists, and filmmakers have sketched their visions of this

transcendent potential for generations. In Sacred Space, he leads readers in a compelling exploration of how this transcendence is manifested in science-fiction cinema and television of today. From the millennial dreams of a future bright with potential to the promise of evolution from some as-yet-undreamed engine of creation, science fiction's visions of transcendence animate the pages of Sacred Space. Drawing on the most popular examples-- Star Wars, Star Trek, Battlestar Galactica, Babylon 5, and Stargate SG-1--as well as the lesser known but no less important, Cowan reveals the multivalent religious ideas present in this media. Why do these themes that consistently appear in science fiction matter? What do they reveal about the often ambivalent relationship between outer space and our spirits? Cowan insightfully shows how these films and shows express and reinforce culturally constructed conceptions of transcendent hope, and along the way provides a provocative reflection on what this ultimately says about our culture's worldviews, hopes, and fears.

### Black Elk Speaks

Why do we travel? Ostensibly an act of leisure, travel finds us thrusting ourselves into jets flying miles above the earth, only to endure dislocations of time and space, foods and languages foreign to our body and mind, and encounters with strangers on whom we must suddenly depend. Travel is not merely a break from routine; it is its antithesis, a voluntary trading in of the security one feels at home for unpredictability and confusion. In Bewildered Travel Frederick Ruf argues that this confusion, which we might think of simply as a necessary evil, is in fact the very thing we are seeking when we leave home. Ruf relates this quest for  $\frac{Page}{7/25}$ 

confusion to our religious behavior. Citing William James, who defined the religious as what enables us to "front life," Ruf contends that the search for bewilderment allows us to point our craft into the wind and sail headlong into the storm rather than flee from it. This view challenges the Eliadean tradition that stresses religious ritual as a shield against the world's chaos. Ruf sees our departures from the familiar as a crucial component in a spiritual life, reminding us of the central role of pilgrimage in religion. In addition to his own revealing experiences as a traveler, Ruf presents the reader with the journeys of a large and diverse assortment of notable Americans, including Henry Miller, Paul Bowles, Mark Twain, Mary Oliver, and Walt Whitman. These accounts take us from the Middle East to the Philippines, India to Nicaragua, Mexico to Morocco--and, in one threatening instance, simply to the edge of the author's own neighborhood. "What gives value to travel is fear," wrote Camus. This book illustrates the truth of that statement.

# Invitation to Sociology

This is the eBook of the printed book and may not include any media, website access codes, or print supplements that may come packaged with the bound book. Examines the main ideas that characterize all religious thought and practice. The Sacred Quest takes a thematic and comparative approach to the study of religion. It gives equal weight to theoretical issues and practices reflected in the major world religions. The text identifies the theoretical issues surrounding the study of religion and focuses on fundamental topics such as ritual and sacred language. Learning Goals Upon completing this book readers will be able to: Recognize main

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#### The Sacred Quest

"The Spiritual Quest, the first book in the Sacred Adventure series, presents a step-by-step guide to the spiritual path. It gives a thorough understanding of the purpose of life—from your point of origin to your becoming a masterful spiritual being. You'll find dynamic keys to your spiritual growth in each of the chapters on your divine origin, your higher self, living a spiritual life in a material world, expanding the flow of light within, karma (good, bad and balanced), reincarnation, and your ultimate destiny. Includes charts, diagrams, color illustrations and audio links throughout."

#### The Sacred Quest

This tongue-in-cheek introduction by Episcopal priest and certified geek J. M. H. Ware uses an "it's geek to me" approach to translate Episcopal theological concepts and rich church

traditions into geek language, accompanied by comics that help the reader maneuver through the oft-dense liturgical and theological workings of the Christian tradition. A tool to evangelize and attract young people to church, it is useful for both those who have recently discovered The Episcopal Church and cradle Episcopalians who have always know there was magic here, helping them to deepen understanding of their faith and relate it to elements of their everyday life. It will also assist them in explaining their faith to friends, who may be even less familiar with Episcopal traditions than they are. This book endeavors to, as Rachel Held Evans has said, "creatively re-articulate the significance of the traditional teachings and sacraments of the church in a modern context" – specifically, in the geek context that is similar to, but more widely known, than church culture. All nerds are welcome on this wild adventure through the Episcopal jungle: Begin the quest by diving into the Player's Handbook – otherwise known as the Book of Common Prayer. Discover the symbolism of every piece of equipment and vestment used during the service. Embrace the wonders of the Episcopal Disneyland we call General Convention. And embark on the adventure path that we call the Holy Eucharist. Ware's light and funny style make the impenetrable mysteries of theology, liturgy, and church history accessible for all, from fans of Star Wars to fans of Star Trek. Her church geekery is matched only by the depth of her knowledge of nerd culture. We solemnly swear that you will make your next Knowledge (religion) check!

#### Anthem

Although there are various `religious' traces in Heidegger's philosophy, little effort has been  $\frac{Page}{10/25}$ 

made to show the systematic import which his thinking has for outlining a full range of religious and theological questions. Precisely because his thought is opposed to the construction of any 'dogma', his vast writings provide clues to what meaning(s) the 'Sacred' and the 'Divine' may have in a postmodern age where the very possibility of 'faith' hangs in the balance. By showing how Heidegger's own thinking can be interpreted as a struggle to come to terms with religious questions, this book undertakes a postmodern investigation of the Sacred which both draws upon and transcends various world-religions and denominations. A postmodern, non-sectarian vision of the Sacred thereby becomes possible which is open to the plurality of religious experiences on the one hand, and yet affirms on the other Heidegger's emphasis (in Beitr ä ge zur Philosophie) on the 'last god' as the displacing of all sectarian visions of god. This book will have special appeal to Heidegger scholars, as well as students interested in the overlap between phenomenology and philosophical theology.

### A Tender Thing

A unique spiritual journey influenced by Hinduism and Buddhism Herman Hesse's Siddhartha tells the story of a young Brahimin's search for reality after a meeting with the Buddha. This strange and simple story has resonated with millions of readers looking for enlightenment and a blend of Eastern mysticism and Western psychology. This Xist Classics edition has been professionally formatted for e-readers with a linked table of contents. This eBook also contains a bonus book club leadership guide and discussion questions. We hope you'll share this book with your friends, neighbors and colleagues and can't wait to hear what you have to say about  $\frac{Page}{Page}$  11/25

it.

# Four Spiritualities

Equality 7-2521 finds himself out of step with the collectivist society of the future, and discovers a means to freedom in Ayn Rand's fable of the individual in conflict with society. First published in 1938, Anthem takes place in a dystopian future world in which humanity is enduring a new dark age, human life is regimented in every respect and personal identity has been all but snuffed out by a totalitarian government. The narrator, writing his story in secret, realizes he is a criminal simply for having thoughts of his own. Exploring the ruins of a previous civilization he discovers relics, conducts forbidden experiments and learns enough to question the very structure of his society. Can he share this knowledge with his fellow citizens? The author strips the relationship of humanity to civilization down to its bare essence in this modern parable that starkly illuminates the challenge an oppressive government presents to individuality. With an eye-catching new cover, and professionally typeset manuscript, this edition of Anthem is both modern and readable.

# The Spiritual Quest

"Every so often, you meet people who radiate joy--who seem to know why they were put on this earth, who glow with a kind of inner light. This inner peace, David Brooks reveals, comes

not from a life of self-centered achievement but a life of interdependence and commitment to others. In The Second Mountain, David Brooks explores the four main commitments that define a virtuous and meaningful life: to a spouse and family, to a vocation, to a philosophy or faith, and to a community. Our personal fulfillment ultimately depends on how well we choose and execute these commitments. We have taken individualism to the extreme, Brooks argues, and in the process we have torn the social fabric in a thousand different ways. In The Second Mountain, Brooks gives us the tools to repair our fractured society, and shows what can happen when we put commitment-making at the center of our lives." -- back cover.

#### Sacred Companions

The famous story of the Lakota healer and visionary, Nicholas Black Elk.

#### The Sacred Chase

For undergraduate courses in Introduction to Religion. This text provides a thematic and comparative approach to the study of religion. The focus of individual chapters gives equal weight to both theoretical issues and to practices as they are reflected in the major religions of the world.

#### The Sacred Quest

Religion is not a museum piece but a vibrant force in the lives of many people around the world. Living Religions is a sympathetic approach to what is living and significant in the world's major religious traditions and in various new movements that are arising. This book provides a clear and straightforward account of the development, doctrines, and practices of the major faiths followed today.

#### The Sacred Quest

"A handless teen escapes from a cult, only to find herself in juvenile detention and suspected of knowing who murdered her cult leader"--

# The Call of the Mourning Dove

Featuring a unique, consistent, and modular chapter structure--"Teachings," "History," and "Way of Life"--and numerous pedagogical features, Invitation to World Religions, Third Edition, invites students to explore the world's great religions with respect and a sense of wonder. This chapter structure enables students to navigate each religion in a consistent and systematic way and to make comparisons between religions. The book describes the essential features of each religion and shows how they have responded to basic human needs and to the cultural contexts in which they developed. The authors also encourage students to develop an appreciation for what religious beliefs and practices actually mean to their adherents.

# The Set-Apart Woman

In The Set-Apart Woman, women of all ages will be encouraged to stay grounded in Jesus amid the many distractions and temptations of their daily lives. Biblical truths will help readers understand what it means to live the consecrated life, set apart for God's purposes. Readers will apply these truths to practical areas of struggle that women face on a daily basis, such as sinful attitudes and patterns and other hindrances to our souls.

# Living Religions

Uses the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator to illuminate four spiritualities that correspond to sixteen personality types

#### **Book Of Vision Quest**

Taking a thematic and comparative approach, this book provides a clear, concise introduction to the study of religion. The Sacred Quest examines the main ideas that characterize all religious thought and practice, with particular emphasis on such fundamental topics as ritual, sacred language, ethics, salvation, and the problem of evil. The Second Edition features a number of new thought experiments. Topics include the Supreme Court rulings on religious holiday displays, the relationships between religion and environmental attitudes, and more. In

addition, the authors now include a brief survey of the history of religious studies in the introduction, present a streamlined discussion of ethics, and update all terms and references.

#### The Satanic Verses

What if the biblical creation account is true, with the origins of Adam and Eve taking place alongside evolution? Building on well-established but overlooked science, S. Joshua Swamidass explains how it's possible for Adam and Eve to be rightly identified as the ancestors of everyone, opening up new possibilities for understanding Adam and Eve consistent both with current scientific consensus and with traditional readings of Scripture.

### Arguing the Just War in Islam

A Simon & Schuster eBook. Simon & Schuster has a great book for every reader.

#### Sacred Quest

Over the past thirty years, visionary anthropologist Michael Taussig has crafted a highly distinctive body of work. Playful, enthralling, and whip-smart, his writing makes ingenious connections between ideas, thinkers, and things. An extended meditation on the mysteries of color and the fascination they provoke, What Color Is the Sacred? is the next step on Taussig's

remarkable intellectual path. Following his interest in magic and surrealism, his earlier work on mimesis, and his recent discussion of heat, gold, and cocaine in My Cocaine Museum, this book uses color to explore further dimensions of what Taussig calls "the bodily unconscious" in an age of global warming. Drawing on classic ethnography as well as the work of Benjamin, Burroughs, and Proust, he takes up the notion that color invites the viewer into images and into the world. Yet, as Taussig makes clear, color has a history—a manifestly colonial history rooted in the West's discomfort with color, especially bright color, and its associations with the so-called primitive. He begins by noting Goethe's belief that Europeans are physically averse to vivid color while the uncivilized revel in it, which prompts Taussig to reconsider colonialism as a tension between chromophobes and chromophiliacs. And he ends with the strange story of coal, which, he argues, displaced colonial color by giving birth to synthetic colors, organic chemistry, and IG Farben, the giant chemical corporation behind the Third Reich. Nietzsche once wrote, "So far, all that has given colour to existence still lacks a history." With What Color Is the Sacred? Taussig has taken up that challenge with all the radiant intelligence and inspiration we've come to expect from him.

# Crossing to Avalon

ECPA 2003 Gold Medallion Finalist We need companions on our spiritual journey. The modern world has taught us to value autonomy and individualism. Our churches often see spirituality as personal and private. But we cannot go long in our Christian pilgrimage before realizing that isolation leads to spiritual barrenness. We soon discover that our souls long for

accompaniment, intimacy and spiritual friendship. As a result, many Christians today are rediscovering the ancient practice of spiritual direction. In this inviting guide, David G. Benner introduces readers to the riches of spiritual friendship and direction, explaining what they are and how they are practiced. Spiritual direction moves beyond mere moral lifestyle accountability and goes deeper than popular notions of mentoring or discipling. Through prayerful, guided attunement to God's activity, sacred companions provide care for the soul. If we are to experience significant spiritual formation and growth, our souls must be nurtured through spiritual companions. Benner, well-accustomed to God's work through relationships, models the kind of traveling companion who can move us toward deeper intimacy with God.

### **Braiding Sweetgrass**

As a botanist, Robin Wall Kimmerer has been trained to ask questions of nature with the tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. In Braiding Sweetgrass, Kimmerer brings these two lenses of knowledge together to take us on "a journey that is every bit as mythic as it is scientific, as sacred as it is historical, as clever as it is wise" (Elizabeth Gilbert). Drawing on her life as an indigenous scientist, and as a woman, Kimmerer shows how other living beings—asters and goldenrod, strawberries and squash, salamanders, algae, and sweetgrass—offer us gifts and lessons, even if we've forgotten how to hear their voices. In reflections that range from the creation of Turtle Island to the forces that threaten its flourishing today, she circles toward a central argument: that the awakening of ecological consciousness

requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world. For only when we can hear the languages of other beings will we be capable of understanding the generosity of the earth, and learn to give our own gifts in return.

# Ganges

#### Siddhartha

There is nothing more important in this life or the one to come than an intimate connection with Jesus. Unfortunately, we have thousands of voices distracting us, and all too often we listen to them. We confuse proximity to God with intimacy with God and are content with a Christian-branded life yet miss out on what we were created for: knowing God intimately. Sharing the touching story of a demon-possessed man who had every reason to run the other way when he encountered Jesus, Heath Adamson shows us how spiritual hunger can overcome our hopelessness, our shame, and our excuses. He encourages us to pursue God regardless of where we've been or where we are, seeing our salvation as a doorway. Once we walk through it, we can discover the love of God in a tangible way. This book is for anyone who longs for a deeper connection to God, who has felt far from peace and hope, and who needs the assurance that God is both interested in who they are and accepts them.

#### The Second Mountain

#### Sacred Quest

Blending numerous heritages, wisdoms, and teachings, this powerfully wrought book encourages people to take charge of their lives, heal themselves, and grow. Movingly rendered, The Book of the Vision Quest is for all who long for renewal and personal transformation. In this revised edition—with two new chapters and added tales from vision questers—Steven Foster recounts his experiences guiding contemporary seekers. He recreates an ancient rite of passage—that of "dying," "passing through," and "being reborn"—known as a vision quest. A sacred ceremony that culminates in a three-day, three-night fast, alone, in a place of natural power, the vision quest is a mystical, practical, and intensely personal journey of self-knowledge.

### The Sacred Lies of Minnow Bly

Spiritual seekers across faith traditions share a fierce yearning for mystical unity with their God. While beliefs and practices differ, what ignites the human heart to quest for the mystical, the unknowable, the holy just beyond understanding, is the same. The Call of the Mourning Dove: How Sacred Sound Awakens Mystical Unity offers a new paradigm, the Sonic Trilogy of Love,

that details how sacred sound, embedded in the ancient canons across faith traditions, creates just such a portal into this unmitigated experience of God. Because the experience is ubiquitous across faith traditions, it does not matter whether a seeker has embarked on an eclectic quest for God or remains deeply committed to questing within one particular faith tradition. All seekers, known as Lovers within the Trilogy, discover that by intoning the sacred sounds, the Love embedded in the ancient languages, the conditions are set to experience unity with God, the Beloved. This unity occurs in unforeseen moments, as love, the core organizing principle of the Trilogy, circles in on itself, dissolving all distinctions, leaving the Lover filled with only the silent wonder of God. And, graciously, nothing is the same.

#### The Ultimate Quest

The most popularly read, adapted, anthologized, and incorporated primer on sociology ever written for modern readers Acclaimed scholar and sociologist Peter L. Berger lays the groundwork for a clear understanding of sociology in his straightforward introduction to the field, much loved by students, professors, and general readers. Berger aligns sociology in the humanist tradition—revealing its relationship to the humanities and philosophy—and establishes its importance in thinking critically about the modern world. Throughout, Berger presents the contributions of some of the most important sociologists of the time, including Max Weber, É mile Durkheim, Vilfredo Pareto, and Thorstein Veblen.

# Writing to Wake the Soul

On a winter's night under a full moon, a father and daughter trek into the woods to see the Great Horned Owl.

### The Genealogical Adam and Eve

Tanus is the fair-haired young lion of a warrior whom the gods have decreed will lead Egypt's army in a bold attempt to reunite the Kingdom's shattered halves. But Tanus will have to defy the same gods to attain the reward they have forbidden him, an object more prized than battle's glory: possession of the Lady Lostris, a rare beauty with skin the color of oiled cedar--destined for the adoration of a nation, and the love of one extraordinary man. International bestselling author Wilbur Smith, creator of over two dozen highly acclaimed novels, draws readers into a magnificent, richly imagined Egyptian saga. Exploding with all the drama, mystery, and rage of ancient Egypt, River God is a masterpiece from a storyteller at the height of his powers.

#### The Sacred Quest

A MIDLIFE QUEST FOR THE GRAIL AND THE GODDESS Dr Jean Shinoda Bolen's extraordinary memoir celebrates the pilgrimage that heralded her spiritual awakening and

leads readers down the path of self-discovery. In this account of her journey to Europe

#### Owl Moon

An exhilarating debut novel set under the dazzling lights of late 1950s Broadway, where a controversial new musical pushes the boundaries of love, legacy, and art. Growing up in rural Wisconsin, Eleanor O'Hanlon always felt different. In love with musical theater from a young age, she memorized every show album she could get her hands on. So when she discovers an open call for one of her favorite productions, she leaves behind everything she knows to run off to New York City and audition. Raw and untrained, she catches the eye of famed composer Don Mannheim, who catapults her into the leading role of his new work, "A Tender Thing," a provocative love story between a white woman and black man, one never before seen on a Broadway stage. As word of the production gets out, an outpouring of protest whips into a fury. Between the intensity of rehearsals, her growing friendship with her co-star Charles, and her increasingly muddled creative--and personal--relationship with Don, Eleanor begins to question her own na "i ve beliefs about the world. When explosive secrets threaten to shatter the delicate balance of the company, and the possibility of the show itself, Eleanor must face a new reality and ultimately decide what it is she truly wants. Pulsing with the vitality and drive of 1950s New York, Emily Neuberger's enthralling debut immerses readers right into the heart of Broadway's Golden Age, a time in which the music soared and the world was on the brink of change.

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