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Ro murmurs into my ear. "Don't be afraid, Dol. They're not coming for us." Still, he slips his arm around me and we wait until the sky is clear. Because he doesn't know. Not really. Everything changed on The Day. The day the Icon appeared in Los Angeles. The day the power stopped. The day Dol's family dropped dead. The day Earth lost a war it didn't know it was fighting. Since then, Dol has lived a simple life in the countryside with fellow survivor Ro-safe from the shadow of the Icon and its terrifying power. Hiding from the one truth she can't avoid. They're different. They survived. Why? When the government discovers their secret, they are forced to join faint-hearted Tima and charismatic Lucas in captivity. Called the Icon Children, the four are the only humans on Earth immune to the power of the Icons. Torn between brooding Ro and her evolving feelings for Lucas, between a past and a future, Dol's heart has never been more vulnerable. And as tensions escalate, the Icon Children discover that their explosive emotions-which they've always thought to be their greatest weaknesses-may actually be their greatest strengths. Bestselling author Margaret Stohl delivers a thrilling novel set in a haunting new world where four teens must piece together the mysteries of their pasts-in order to save their future. 'Etechells writes eloquently ... A heartfelt defence of a demonised pastime' The Times 'Once in an age, a piece of culture comes along that feels like it was specifically created for you,

the beats and words and ideas are there because it is your life the creator is describing. Lost In A Good Game is exactly that. It will touch your heart and mind. And even if Bowser, Chun-li or Q-Bert weren't crucial parts of your youth, this is a flawless victory for everyone' Adam Rutherford When Pete Etchells was 14, his father died from motor neurone disease. In order to cope, he immersed himself in a virtual world - first as an escape, but later to try to understand what had happened. Etchells is now a researcher into the psychological effects of video games, and was co-author on a recent paper explaining why WHO plans to classify 'game addiction' as a danger to public health are based on bad science and (he thinks) are a bad idea. In this, his first book, he journeys through the history and development of video games - from Turing's chess machine to mass multiplayer online games like World of Warcraft- via scientific study, to investigate the highs and lows of playing and get to the bottom of our relationship with games - why we do it, and what they really mean to us. At the same time, Lost in a Good Game is a very unusual memoir of a writer coming to terms with his grief via virtual worlds, as he tries to work out what area of popular culture we should classify games (a relatively new technology) under. "Become a shining icon in the business world! Understanding the rules of the professional leagues can ignite a woman's lifetime dreams and propel her to the top of any industry she chooses. Women are excelling furiously in society like no time in human history. Savvy women are reinventing themselves to claim their share of success. Are you ready to join them? Learn to focus your energy and shed distractions. Maintain control in challenging business scenarios. Recognize the social politics and stereotypes that impact women today. Establish concrete objectives for career preparation and advancement. Set your character compass on a North course for maximum performance. Entrepreneur professional Susan Diane Howell, MBA examines the heart of women's expectancy for success and shares a roster of empowerment points that build confidence and ultimate authority in career achievement. This critical book will enlighten the journey of every reader, as the no-nonsense success insights contained could only be understood and presented by a woman professional warrior who has forged the sacred grounds of Los Angeles, Manhattan, Las Vegas and the Asian and European markets. Few women understand their power and undermine the scope of their capability in the business world. Your ultimate potential is perfectly forecasted within the pages of Empowering The Professional Woman." • Helps bridge the gap between love of God and love of nature • A separate Facilitator's Guide accompanies the book

for small group usage Many people experience God most strongly in nature but do not know how to incorporate this experience into their spiritual life. Others question whether Christianity has room for nature at all and seek alternatives elsewhere, often leaving Christianity entirely. This book addresses this crucial issue by providing a resource for fostering a closer relationship with God and creation. With a step-by-step approach, this book provides a framework integrating asceticism with the contemplation of nature. Each chapter contains a "take it home" section for applying the lessons learned outdoors to everyday life, connecting God and nature as seamless components of spirituality. Topics include gratitude, delight, appreciation, wonder, discernment, reverence, mortality, love, beauty, humility, silence, and hope. Information Design provides citizens, business and government with a means of presenting and interacting with complex information. It embraces applications from wayfinding and map reading to forms design; from website and screen layout to instruction. Done well it can communicate across languages and cultures, convey complicated instructions, even change behaviours. Information Design offers an authoritative guide to this important multidisciplinary subject. The book weaves design theory and methods with case studies of professional practice from leading information designers across the world. The heavily illustrated text is rigorous yet readable and offers a single, must-have, reference to anyone interested in information design or any of its related disciplines such as interaction design and information architecture, information graphics, document design, universal design, service design, map-making and wayfinding. With the increase in the amount and dimensionality of scientific data collected, new approaches to the design of displays of such data have become essential. The designers of visual and auditory displays of scientific data seek to harness perceptual processes for data exploration. The general aim is to provide ways for raw data, and the statistical and mathematical structures they comprise, to "speak for themselves" and, thereby, enable scientists to conduct exploratory, in addition to confirmatory analyses of their data. The present primary approach via visualization depends mainly on coding data as positions of visually distinguishable elements in a two- or three- dimensional euclidean space, e.g., as discrete points comprising clusters in scatter-plot displays and as patches comprising the hills and valleys of statistical surfaces. These displays are immensely effective because the data are in a form that evokes natural perceptual processing of the data into impressions of the presence and spatial disposition of apparent materials, objects, and structures in the viewers

apparent physical environment. The problem with this mode of display, however, is that its perceptual potency is largely exhausted at dimension three, while we increasingly face the need to explore data of much greater dimensionality. The challenge posed for visualization researchers is to develop new modes of display that can push the dimensionality of data displays higher while retaining the kind of perceptual potency needed for data exploration. A presentation on the biblical and patristic vision of beauty, applied then to contemporary movements in art. A 'theology of the icon' from a personal point of view, as well as in the context of the Church. Finally, the author includes a section and commentaries on 10 icons, from Riblev's Holy Trinity to the Novgorodian Angel.

Shows users how to build working HyperCard applications. How to create more sophisticated applications by means of the HyperTalk scripting language. Incorporates new multimedia capabilities. Elvis Presley stands tall as perhaps the supreme icon of 20th-century U.S. culture. But he was perceived to be deeply un-American in his early years as his controversial adaptation of rhythm and blues music and gyrating on-stage performances sent shockwaves through Eisenhower's conservative America and far beyond. This book explores Elvis Presley's global transformation from a teenage rebel figure into one of the U.S.'s major pop-cultural embodiments from a historical perspective. It shows how Elvis's rise was part of an emerging transnational youth culture whose political impact was heavily conditioned by the Cold War. As well as this, the book analyses Elvis's stint as G.I. soldier in West Germany, where he acted as an informal ambassador for the so-called American way of life and was turned into a deeply patriotic figure almost overnight. Yet, it also suggests that Elvis's increasingly synonymous identity with U.S. culture ultimately proved to be a double-edged sword, as the excesses of his superstardom and personal decline seemingly vindicated long-held stereotypes about the allegedly materialistic nature of U.S. society. Tracing Elvis's story from his unlikely rise in the 1950s right up to his tragic death in August 1977, this book offers a riveting account of changing U.S. identities during the Cold War, shedding fresh light on the powerful role of popular music and consumerism in shaping images of the United States during the cultural struggle between East and West.

Darwin's theory of evolution was for more than a century dogged by a major problem: the evidence proving the connections between the main groups of organisms was nowhere to be found. By the 1970s this absence of 'transitional fossils' was hotly debated; some palaeontologists wondered if these 'missing links' had been so quick

that no trace of them was left. However, during the past three decades fossils of walking whales from Pakistan, feathered dinosaurs from China, fish with feet from the Arctic Circle, ape-like humans from Africa, and many more bizarre creatures that fill in crucial gaps in our understanding of evolution have all been unearthed. The first account of the hunt for evolution's 'missing links', *Written in Stone* shows how these discoveries have revolutionised palaeontology, and explores what its findings might mean for our place on earth. Practically everybody loves to travel; to discover something new. We want to escape, to be free, to feel the sun on our faces. So we venture forth to far away places. But whether we are package tourists, culture vultures or backpackers the questions can still arise: Is this really all there is? Is there nothing beyond what we can see - something MORE? Can we find space and time on our journey to find new realities? The outward journey can be the start of an inner journey. This book, superbly translated from the original Swedish, reflects on our modern obsession with travel whilst discussing existential questions. During his visits to Rome, Paris, Venice and the Canary Islands, the author depicts an inner journey. On the way we meet such diverse figures as the philosopher Seneca, the author Proust, Emperor Marcus Aurelius, and the 'Man in the corner', whose radical doubts question all kinds of pretentious talk. We click on computer icons - the world opens up. But the pocket icon is of a different sort. It speaks of another journey. At a time when many people feel confused and embarrassed by talk about spirituality, this book puts forward powerful ideas in an eminently readable style - but perhaps it poses more questions than it answers. 'A barely discernable, but serious and calm look stares at me from the cheap plastic Russian icon. The icon's reverse perspective means that the observer is always observed wherever he is. Or rather - the observer is drawn into the icon's world. The diminutive pictures' faded colours: dark red, gold and pale blue light up my study. The icon watches over me whilst I sleep on train journeys or at dreary airports. It is placed next to my bed when I come home. At this moment it is standing on the railing of a balcony several miles off the coast of Africa. But mostly it rests in my pocket. Holiness doubly concealed.' Owe Wikström is the author of fifteen books and is professor of the Psychology of Religion at Uppsala University, Sweden. A Lutheran minister and psychotherapist, he has written several books on psychology, philosophy, literature, music and culture. He is a popular speaker and a frequent contributor to radio and television programmes. His bestseller *Långsamhetens lov* (In Praise of Slowness) has already been translated into six languages. He was

awarded the Swedish C. S. Lewis Prize for 2007. "The nature of the icon cannot be grasped by means of pure art criticism, nor by the adoption of a sentimental point of view. Its forms are based on the wisdom contained in the theological and liturgical writings of the Eastern Orthodox Church and are intimately bound up with the experience of the contemplative life. The present work is the first of its kind to give a reliable introduction to the spiritual background of this art. The introduction into the meaning and language of the icons by Ouspensky imparts to us in an admirable way the spiritual conceptions of the Eastern Orthodox Church which are often so foreign to us, but without the knowledge of which we cannot possibly understand the world of the icon." -- Back cover. Explores the development and diffusion of the vita image which emerged in Byzantium in the twelfth century and spread to Italy and beyond. Vincent is a 27-year old aspiring entrepreneur with big dreams. But after going through a devastating divorce, he finds himself emotionally drained, lacking confidence and dead broke. However, a chance encounter with The Icon (a billionaire business mogul) results in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to change the direction of his life, forever. Vincent becomes the newest protege of The Icon, and is offered an internship at the most powerful wealth management firm in Beverly Hills. The Icon becomes his business mentor, his father-figure and his best friend. The Icon Effect is both an inspirational story and an aspirational story about the power of faith, belief and second chances. You will undoubtedly find yourself rooting for Vincent the underdog as he discovers the magic of having a true mentor. The most significant collection of David Bowie images ever assembledA luxurious opus published to coincide with the 5th anniversary of David Bowie's deathImpeccably printed, sumptuously designed, large format hardback bookTop photographers, iconic images, wonderful surprisesMajor marketing campaign, including radio, print and online promotionsEvents with photographers, including on-stage Q&As and book signingsTie-in to exhibitions at galleries, globally David Bowie: Icon gathers the greatest images of one of the greatest stars in history, into a single, luxurious volume. The result is the most important anthology of David Bowie images that has ever been compiled. Featuring work from many of the greatest names in photography, this book showcases an incredible portfolio of imagery, featuring the iconic, the awe inspiring, the candid and the surprising.Follow the visual evolution of Bowie over the years, through the lenses of his famous photographer collaborators.Photography and text by: Gerald Fearnley, Justin de Villeneuve, Terry O'Neill, Masayoshi Sukita,

Norman Parkinson, Kevin Cummins, Janet Macoska, Lynn Goldsmith, Geoff MacCormack, Alec Byrne, Brian Aris, Andrew Kent, Vernon Dewhurst, Gavin Evans, Fernando Aceves, Barry Schultz, Ray Stevenson, Chalkie Davies, Markus Klinko, Greg Gorman, John Scarisbrick, Denis O'Regan, Mick Rock, Philippe Auliac, Steve Schapiro. When David Bowie passed away on 10 January 2016, the world lost an icon. And yet, his legacy lives on. From his humble origins as a teen musician in the 1960s up until the very end, David Bowie's music, lyrics and provocative performances inspired not only his generation, but every generation that followed. While his sound and style underwent several alterations throughout his career, two facts never changed. He was an innovator, and photographers adored him. This book pays homage to this once-in-a-lifetime icon. Discusses the benefits and risks, as well as the economic and socio-political realities, of rewilding as a novel conservation tool. This study of the theological arguments presented at the Seventh Ecumenical Council (Nicaea II) of 787 is a clear exposition of the place of icons in the Eastern Church's approach to salvation. Explores the Byzantine aesthetic of fugitive appearances by placing and filming art objects in spaces of changing light, and by uncovering the shifting appearances expressed in poetry, descriptions of art, and liturgical performance. The Byzantines surrounded themselves with their saints, invisible but constant companions, who were made visible by dreams, visions, and art. The composition and presentation of this imagined gallery followed a logical structure, a construct that was itself a collective work of art created by Byzantine society. The purpose of this book is to analyze the logic of the saint's image in Byzantium, both in portraits and in narrative scenes. Here Henry Maguire argues that the Byzantines gave to their images differing formal characteristics of movement, modeling, depth, and differentiation, according to the tasks that the icons were called upon to perform in the all-important business of communication between the visible and the invisible worlds. The book draws extensively on sources that have been relatively little utilized by art historians. It considers both domestic and ecclesiastical artifacts, showing how the former raised the problem of access by lay men and women to the supernatural and fueled the debates concerning the role of images in the Christian cult. Special attention is paid to the poems inscribed by the Byzantines upon their icons, and to the written lives of their saints, texts that offer the most direct and vivid insight into the everyday experience of art in Byzantium. The overall purpose of the book is to provide a new view of Byzantine art, one that integrates formal analysis with both theology

and social history. "A pioneering look at the ways in which contemporary architecture serves the interests of the capitalist class, from global North to South and through to the petro-cities of the Gulf States In the last quarter century, a new form of iconic architecture has appeared throughout the world's major cities. Typically designed by globe-trotting "starchitects" or by a few large transnational architectural firms, these projects are almost always driven by private interests. In *The Icon Project*, sociologist Leslie Sklair focuses on ways in which capitalist globalization is produced and represented all over the world, especially in globalizing cities. Sklair traces how the iconic buildings of our era—elaborate shopping malls, spectacular museums and vast urban megaprojects—constitute the triumphal "Icon Project" of contemporary global capitalism, promoting increasing inequality and hyperconsumerism. He sets out to explain how the architecture industry organizes the social production and marketing of iconic structures and how corporations increasingly dominate the built environment and promote the trend towards globalizing, consumerist cities. *The Icon Project*, Sklair argues, is a weapon in the struggle to solidify capitalist hegemony as well as reinforce transnational capitalist control of where we live, what we consume, and how we think"-- Icons provide depictions of God or encounters with the divine that enable reflection and prayer. 'In the Beginning is the Icon' explores the value of these images for a theology of liberation. Iconology, art theory, philosophical aesthetics, art history and anthropology are integrated with rigorous theological reflection to argue that the creation and observation of pictures can have a liberating effect on humanity. In presenting art from across the world, 'In the Beginning is the Icon' reflects the ethnocentricity of both art and religious studies and offers a new cross-cultural approach to the theology of art. The definitive biography of one of the world's most famous women. Madonna is the biggest-selling female recording artist in the world and one of our greatest living pop stars. With each pioneering album she has consistently reinvented her music and her image, transcending the world of pop to become a global cultural icon. In 2018, unbelievably, she is hitting her 60th birthday – yet she still remains as relevant as ever. Lucy O'Brien's extensive and well-researched biography looks at Madonna the artist, offering a detailed analysis of her music with input from acclaimed musicians and producers, as well revealing interviews from her intimate inner circle. She follows Madonna from her difficult childhood and those frenetic early years in New York, through the shocks and scandals of the 1990s Sex era to her twenty-first-century incarnation as an outspoken

activist. Providing a fascinating insight into her life, relationships and what motivates her as a woman and an artist, *Madonna: Like an Icon* is the definitive biography of one of the biggest stars in the world. The sixteen studies in this book include six specially translated from Greek and another two published here for the first time. They deal with the art of painting in Crete in the 15th century, when the centre of Byzantine artistic production migrated from Constantinople to Candia, the capital of Venetian-occupied Crete. The main focus is on the painter Angelos and the icons he painted or which can be assigned to him, and particular attention is given to the archival documents that illuminate his life and career, and shed light on the trade in icons. "This title was first published in 2003. Icons are traditionally regarded as timeless, motionless and eternal: windows onto Heaven. But it is not enough to simply wonder at their unchanging portrayal of divinity. How did they work? What did Byzantine culture want icons for? In what ways did Byzantines conceive these images as more meaningful and more powerful than simply pictures? What was the nature of the divinity of icons? "Icon and Word" brings together the work of a group of scholars to re-examine these notions. The resulting papers demonstrate the dynamism of the image in the medieval world. They explore not just what an icon is, but how it functions in different contexts, periods and cultures, and look at images in a broad range of media, in addition to the traditional format of painted panels: ivory carvings, manuscript illuminations and monumental wall paintings. Some of the papers engage directly with an object or group of objects to ask questions about the power and significance of icons in a range of different cultural contexts - Rome, Cairo, the Medieval West and Byzantium. Others look specifically at the nature of the Byzantine icon within its own society, above all in the years after the Iconoclast Dispute, a dispute that established the place of icons within Orthodox religion forever. "Icon and Word" discovers the power and significance of icons, and why they mattered so much in Byzantium that the Empire was in uproar for over a century."--Provided by publisher. In 1428, a devastating fire destroyed a schoolhouse in the northern Italian city of Forlì, leaving only a woodcut of the Madonna and Child that had been tacked to the classroom wall. The people of Forlì carried that print - now known as the Madonna of the Fire - into their cathedral, where two centuries later a new chapel was built to enshrine it. In this book, Lisa Pon considers a cascade of moments in the Madonna of the Fire's cultural biography: when ink was impressed onto paper at a now-unknown date; when that sheet was recognized by Forlì's people as miraculous; when it was enshrined in

various tabernacles and chapels in the cathedral; when it or one of its copies was - and still is - carried in procession. In doing so, Pon offers an experiment in art historical inquiry that spans more than three centuries of making, remaking, and renewal. With Yosemite, Apple has unleashed the most innovative version of OS X yet—and once again, David Pogue brings his expertise and humor to the #1 bestselling Mac book. Mac OS X 10.10 includes more innovations from the iPad and adds a variety of new features throughout the operating system. This updated edition covers it all with something new on practically every page. Get the scoop on Yosemite's big-ticket changes Learn enhancements to existing applications, such as Safari and Mail Take advantage of shortcuts and undocumented tricks Use power user tips for networking, file sharing, and building your own services An expansive and insightful exploration of one of the most iconic and electrifying artists ever, this book reveals the stunning, multi-generational influence and appeal of Prince and his revered music—from celebrated journalist, author, and host of the popular podcast The Touré Show. Infused with Touré's unique pop-culture fluency, I Would Die 4 U is as passionate and radical as its subject matter. Building on his lifelong admiration for Prince's oeuvre and interviews with those closest to the late artist, including band members, his tour manager, and music and Bible scholars, Touré deconstructs the life and work of the enigmatic icon who has been both a reflective mirror of and inspirational force for America. By defying traditional categories of race, gender, and sexuality, but also presenting a very conventional conception of religion and God, Prince was a man of profound contradictions. He spoke in the language of 60s pop and soul to a generation fearing Cold War apocalypse and the crack and AIDS epidemic, while simultaneously being both an MTV megastar and a religious evangelist. He creatively blended his songs with images of sex and profanity to invite us into a musical conversation about the healing power of God and religion. By demystifying Prince as a man, an artist, and a cultural force, I Would Die 4 U shows us how he impacted and defined a generation. This book contributes to the re-emerging field of 'theology through the arts' by proposing a way of approaching one of the most challenging theological concepts - divine timelessness - through the principle of construction of space in the icon. One of the main objectives of this book is to discuss critically the implications of 'reverse perspective', which is especially characteristic of Byzantine and Byzantining art. Drawing on the work of Pavel Florensky, one of the foremost Russian religious philosophers at the beginning of the 20th century, Antonova shows that Florensky's

concept of 'supplementary planes' can be used productively within a new approach to the question. Antonova works up new criteria for the understanding of how space and time can be handled in a way that does not reverse standard linear perspective (as conventionally claimed) but acts in its own way to create eternalised images which are not involved with perspective at all. Arguing that the structure of the icon is determined by a conception of God who exists in past, present, and future, simultaneously, Antonova develops an iconography of images done in the Byzantine style both in the East and in the West which is truer to their own cultural context than is generally provided for by western interpretations. This book draws upon philosophy, theology and liturgy to see how relatively abstract notions of a deity beyond time and space enter images made by painters. Are we all at the mercy of our brain chemistry? Do you think that the amygdala and the hippocampus are fantastical sea monsters? What can an MRI scan tell us? Could you explain to dinner-party guests why we don't giggle when we tickle ourselves? 30-Second Brain is here to fill your mind with the science of exactly what's happening inside your head. Using no more than two pages, 300 words and an illustration, this is the quickest way to understand the wiring and function of the most complex and intricate mechanism in the human body. Discover how the networks of 90 billion nerve cells work together to produce perception, action, cognition and emotion. Explore how your brain defines your personality, and what it gets up to while you are asleep. Illustrated with mind-bending graphics and supported by biographies of pioneers in the field of neuroscience, it's the book to get your grey matter thinking about your grey matter. LibreOffice is a freely-available, full-featured office suite that runs on Windows, Linux, and Mac OS X computers. This book is for anyone who wants to get up to speed quickly with LibreOffice 5.0. It introduces Writer (word processing), Calc (spreadsheets), Impress (presentations), Draw (vector drawings), Math (equation editor), and Base (database). This book was written by volunteers from the LibreOffice community. Profits from the sale of this book will be used to benefit the community. "Property rights" and "Russia" do not usually belong in the same sentence. Rather, our general image of the nation is of insecurity of private ownership and defenselessness in the face of the state. Many scholars have attributed Russia's long-term development problems to a failure to advance property rights for the modern age and blamed Russian intellectuals for their indifference to the issues of ownership. A Public Empire refutes this widely shared conventional wisdom and analyzes the emergence of Russian property

regimes from the time of Catherine the Great through World War I and the revolutions of 1917. Most importantly, *A Public Empire* shows the emergence of the new practices of owning "public things" in imperial Russia and the attempts of Russian intellectuals to reconcile the security of property with the ideals of the common good. The book analyzes how the belief that certain objects—rivers, forests, minerals, historical monuments, icons, and Russian literary classics—should accede to some kind of public status developed in Russia in the mid-nineteenth century. Professional experts and liberal politicians advocated for a property reform that aimed at exempting public things from private ownership, while the tsars and the imperial government employed the rhetoric of protecting the sanctity of private property and resisted attempts at its limitation. Exploring the Russian ways of thinking about property, *A Public Empire* looks at problems of state reform and the formation of civil society, which, as the book argues, should be rethought as a process of constructing "the public" through the reform of property rights.

Princess Diana, Jackie O, Grace Kelly?the star icon is the most talked about yet least understood persona. The object of adoration, fantasy, and cult obsession, the star icon is a celebrity, yet she is also something more: a dazzling figure at the center of a media pantomime that is at once voyeuristic and zealously guarded. With skill and humor, Daniel Herwitz pokes at the gears of the celebrity-making machine, recruiting a philosopher's interest in the media, an eye for society, and a love of popular culture to divine our yearning for these iconic figures and the role they play in our lives. Herwitz portrays the star icon as caught between transcendence and trauma. An effervescent being living on a distant, exalted planet, the star icon is also a melodramatic heroine desperate to escape her life and the ever-watchful eye of the media. The public buoys her up and then eagerly watches her fall, her collapse providing a satisfying conclusion to a story sensationally told?while leaving the public yearning for a rebirth. Herwitz locates this double life in the opposing tensions of film, television, religion, and consumer culture, offering fresh perspectives on these subjects while ingeniously mapping society's creation (and destruction) of these special aesthetic stars. Herwitz has a soft spot for popular culture yet remains deeply skeptical of public illusion. He worries that the media distances us from even minimal insight into those who are transfigured into star icons. It also blinds us to the shaping of our political present. Within the Eastern tradition of Christianity, the eikon, or religious image, has long held a place of honor. In the greater part of Western Christianity, however, discomfort with images in worship, both statues and panel icons,

has been a relatively common current, particularly since the Reformation. In the Roman Catholic Church, after years of using religious statues, the Second Vatican Council's call for "noble simplicity" in many cases led to a stripping of images that in some ways helped refocus attention on the eucharistic celebration itself but also led to a starkness that has left many Roman Catholics unsure of how to interact with the saints or with religious images at all. Today, Western interest in panel icons has been rising, yet we lack standards of quality or catechesis on what to do with them. This book makes the case that icons should have a role to play in the Western Church that goes beyond mere decoration. Citing theological and ecumenical reasons, Visel argues that, with regard to use of icons, the post-Vatican II Roman Catholic Church needs to give greater respect to the Eastern tradition. While Roman Catholics may never interact with icons in quite the same way that Eastern Christians do, we do need to come to terms with what icons are and how we should encounter them.

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