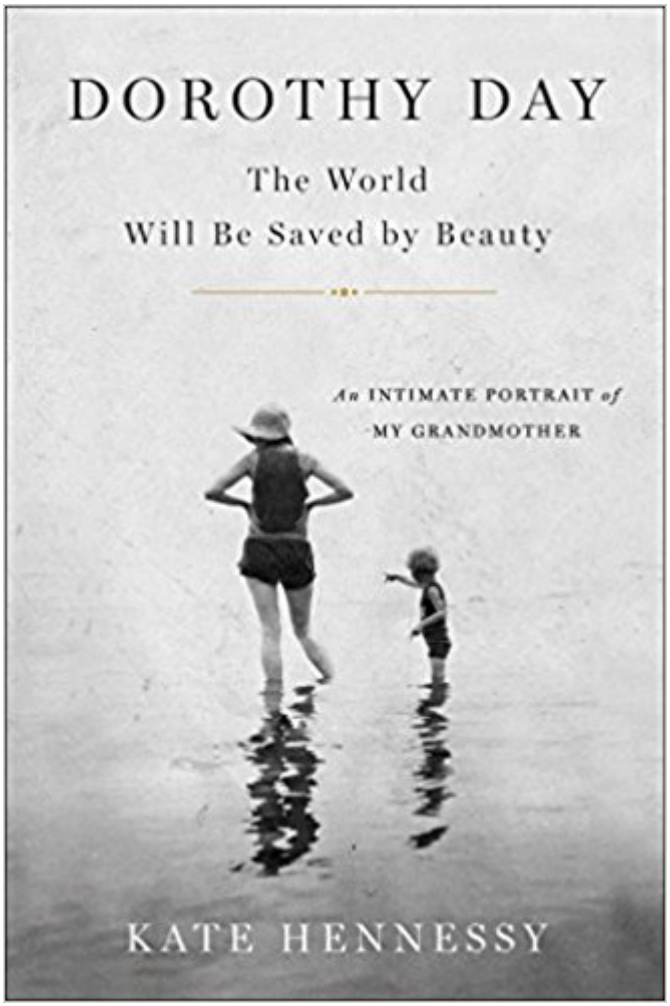
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Dorothy Day: The World Will Be Saved By Beauty: An Intimate Portrait Of My Grandmother



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Synopsis

The life and work of Dorothy DayÃ¢â ¬â •the iconic, celebrated, and controversial Catholic whom Pope Francis called a Ã¢â ¬Å“great AmericanÃ¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •told with illuminating detail by her granddaughter.Dorothy Day (1897-1980) was a prominent Catholic, writer, social activist, and co-founder of a movement dedicated to serving the poorest of the poor. Her life has been revealed through her own writings as well as the work of historians, theologians, and academics. What has been missing until now is a more personal account from the point of view of someone who knew her well. Dorothy Day: The World Will Be Saved by Beauty is a frank and reflective, heartfelt and humorous portrayal as written by her granddaughter, Kate Hennessy. Dorothy Day: The World Will Be Saved by Beauty challenges ideas of plaster saints and of saintly women. Day is an unusual candidate for sainthood. Before her conversion, she lived what she called a Ã¢â ¬Å“disorderly life,Ã¢â ¬Â• during which she had an abortion and then gave birth to a child out of wedlock. After her conversion, she was both an obedient servant and a rigorous challenger of the Church. She was a prolific writer whose books are still in print and widely read. While tenderly rendered, this account will show her as driven to do good but dogmatic, loving but judgmental, in particular with regards to her only daughter, Tamar. She was also full of humor and laughter, and could light up any room she entered. An undisputed radical heroine, called Ã¢â ¬Å“a saint for the occupy eraÃ¢â ¬Â• by The New Yorker, DayÃ¢â ¬â„¢s story unfolds against a backdrop of New York City from the 1910s to the 1980s and world events spanning from World War I to Vietnam. This thoroughly researched and intimate biography provides a valuable and nuanced portrait of an undersung and provocative American woman.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"[I]ntensely interesting ...Ã Â the images are kaleidoscopic." Ã¢â ¬â •The Atlantic"[A]n intimate, revealing and sometimes wrenching family memoir." Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Times"HennessyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s biography unspools slowly, though not leisurely or even comfortably, as it is genuinely questing after personal and familial enlightenment, and tests of willpower, of facing the human weaknesses, blind errors, and hurtfulnesses of one you love, are the bitter of honesty. Her biography is also embracing Ã¢â ¬â œ a cinematic documentary Ã¢â ¬â œ so there is much to admire in this pilgrimÃ¢â ¬â„¢s progress." Ã¢â ¬â •The Christian Science Monitor"[A] deeply intimate and highly credible account ...Ã Â Hennessy explores themes of integrity, vocation, and community, portraying Dorothy Day honestly in her gifts and faults. But the most powerful thread is raw beauty that links together the author to her grandmother, strangers to one another, and people to God." Ã¢â ¬â •Sojourners"[T]he striking story of this remarkable, but complicated woman." Ã¢â ¬â •Relevant Magazine"Like her grandmother, Hennessy is a writer of great skill, blending interviews, family letters, writings by Dorothy and other members of the Worker, and her own memories into a coherent whole ...Ã Â Dorothy Day: The World Will Be Saved by BeautyÃ Â is a work of love, not greed or pride, and that's what gives it much of its beauty." Ã¢â ¬â •Chicago Reader"[B]eautifully written ... searingly honest." Ã¢â ¬â •America Magazine"This biography vividly conveys the vision and the adventure of this extraordinary woman who deserves to be called a saint." Ã¢â ¬â •Spirituality and Practice"Fascinating, well-told, candid, and tender." Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus Reviews,Ã Â starred review"Dorothy Day comes to life, here, but [her daughter] Tamar also lives on the page, engaged with her mother in an absorbing family drama that Hennessy depicts with warmth, poignancy, and not a little poetry." Ã¢â ¬â •Booklist,Ã Â starred review"Hennessy has created an amazing tapestry of Day's life and the memories she left with her loved ones." Ã¢â ¬â •Publishers WeeklyÃ¢â ¬Å“Kate HennessyÃ¢â ¬â„¢sÃ Â The World Will Be Saved By BeautyÃ Â lives in my heart, my mind, and my soul. With a great granddaughtersÃ¢â ¬â„¢ great love, compassionate understanding, and often painful truth, Dorothy Day, her family, and the history of the Catholic Worker movement are newly remembered for a new generation by a brilliant writer and family archivist. Frankly, it is a must-read.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Martin Sheen, actor and activistÃ Â "What a gift!Ã Â The World Will Be SavedÃ Â By BeautyÃ Â is revelatory and compulsively readable. Dorothy DayÃ¢â ¬â„¢s letters and diaries are marvelous, but they raise

almost as many questions as they answer, particularly about DayÃ¢â ¬â„¢s relationship with her daughter Tamar.Ã Â Granddaughter to the one, daughter to the other, Kate Hennessy grew up inside that relationship Ã¢â ¬â œ breathed it in like air. It nourished and sustained her, and I suspect it still does, but it was immensely complicated, for the two women were in so many ways worlds apart, and Hennessy doesnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t pretend they werenÃ¢â ¬â„¢t.Ã Â She writes with absolute candor, immense tenderness, and the kind of artistry Ã¢â ¬â œ much like her grandmotherÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Ã¢â ¬â œ that works small miracles without ever calling attention to itself." Ã¢â ¬â •Carol Flinders, author ofÃ Â Enduring Grace: Living Portraits of Seven Women MysticsKate Hennessy's superb new biography of her grandmother, Dorothy Day, is an absolutely fascinating, deeply personal and beautifully written story of one of the most important womenÃ¢â ¬â •Catholic or otherwiseÃ¢â ¬â •of our time. Part biography, part detective story, part spiritual memoir, Hennessy brings vividly alive the brilliant, charismatic and faith-filled apostle of social justice who will one day be known as St. Dorothy Day." Ã¢â ¬â •James Martin, SJ, author ofÃ Â Jesus: A PilgrimageÃ Â andÃ Â My Life with the Saints.Ã¢â ¬Å“Many years from now, when, presumably, Dorothy Day has been added to the canon of saints, readers will look to Kate HennessyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s stunning work to be reminded that holy people are actual human beings. Through DayÃ¢â ¬â„¢s relationship with her daughter Tamar, she emerges in her full complex humanity, struggling like any parent, astonishingly insightful one moment, oblivious the next. Ultimately, Kate HennessyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s book tells the universal story of how hard it is fully to know the people we love the most, of the struggle to find forgiveness and healing, of the many forms of conversion, and of the many aspects of that beautyÃ¢â ¬â •as Dostoevsky wroteÃ¢â ¬â •that will save the world.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Robert Ellsberg, editor ofÃ Â The DutyÃ Â of Delight: The Diaries of Dorothy DayÃ Â

Kate Hennessy is a writer and the youngest of Dorothy DayÃ¢â ¬â„¢s nine grandchildren. Her work has been included in Best American Travel Writing. She is the author of Dorothy Day: The World Will Be Saved By Beauty and, in collaboration with the photographer Vivian Cherry, Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker: The Miracle of our Continuance. Kate divides her time between Ireland and Vermont.

Detailed history/memoir of Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker written by her youngest granddaughter. An inspiring, complicated, imperfect character whose life spanned nearly all the twentieth century. She lived with Eugene O'Neil, and several others, and worked at all kinds of jobs.

She created a newspaper and a movement that influenced and supported many needy and interesting people. Seen mainly from the perspective of her only child, her daughter Tamar, this is a sobering account that makes me want to read the author’s other book about her grandmother.

This is a masterful biography of a complicated woman who is Ms. Hennessy’s grandmother and called by some "the greatest example of nonviolent activism of the 20th century." A teacher always appears at the opportune moment in history to enlighten us to the possibility of a better world and show us the means to reach it. Dorothy Day spoke truth to power both civil and churchly and her voice is still heard today.

I have read many many books about Dorothy Day, and almost all of Day’s books, but this book was the most insightful for me to peek inside Dorothy Day from a family member’s perspective. Certainly no one is perfect, and I will not be the first to cast a stone, but I see Dorothy’s failings now as well as her good qualities. I feel a deep sense of sorrow for her daughter, Tamar, and the grandchildren. Hopefully God will bring healing to the lives of all Tamar’s children. My sense was no one at the time knew that alcoholism is a family disease, and it was painful to read the suffering that Tamar went through in a very long hurt filled marriage.For those familiar with AA and Al Anon, the understanding is that the person who lives with the alcoholic is the sicker of the two for no normal person would put up with all that. It is so clear to me how Tamar would put up with ’all that’ from reading this book. The poor woman was abandoned by both mother and father really, and moved around so often she stopped counting the times, and was raised by many strangers. Sadly Tamar had also suffered spiritual abuse from her mother’s intense desire for her to go on the CW retreats by Fr. Hugo, and by the nuns in the Catholic school she attended. Very sad and heart breaking.I hope that all Dorothy Day’s grandchildren are able to find therapy and good Al Anon meetings.

I’ve admired Dorothy Day for decades. This intimate look at her life is unlike anything else I’ve read about Day. Highly recommended!

This is a beautiful and sensitive account of Dorothy’s family life, told by her youngest granddaughter, Kate Hennessy. It contains many insights into the life of this dynamic and controversial woman who courageously led the Catholic Worker Movement from its formation in the early 1930’s until her death in 1980.This biography gives an intimate and, at times, perhaps, painfully honest portrait of Dorothy, her relationships with her daughter Tamara, and Tamara’s

father, Forster Batterham, the great and tragic love in Dorothy's life. It takes us through four generations of family life of the Day's, the Batterham's, and the Hennessy's."The World will be Saved by Love" gives us a new and personal perspective into the life of the young Dorothy, her friendship with Eugene O'Neill, Mike Gold, Emma Goldman, Ade Bethune and Peter Maurin and many others.I have to agree with Martin Sheen when he states on the back cover.... "Frankly, it is a must read."

Amazing read! if you want to know even more about Day, this fills out the line.

Though not particularly uplifting, one can always draw inspiration from the life, devotion, and work of Dorothy Day. The very human side of the author's subject is exposed here--somethihg we rarely see of our heroes in faith. We frail humans can take heart that the Catholic Worker founder struggled with many of the same everyday issues of life and family as we.

Beautiful bio on an underrated person who gave so much for the poor

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