

IN PRINT

The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother

by James McBride

Paperback - 291 pages (February 1997)
Riverhead Books

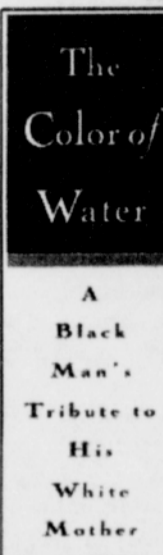
Order this book and please don't be put off by its pallid subtitle, A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother, which doesn't begin to do justice to the utterly unique and moving story contained within. The Color of Water tells the remarkable story of Ruth McBride Jordan, the two good men she married, and the 12 good children she raised. Jordan, born Rachel Shilsky, a Polish Jew, immigrated to America soon after birth, as an adult she moved to New York City, leaving her family and

faith behind in Virginia. Jordan met and married a black man, making her isolation even more profound. The book is a success story, a testament to one woman's true heart, solid values, and indomitable will. Ruth Jordan battled not only racism but also poverty to raise her children and, despite being sorely tested, never wavered. In telling her story—along with her son's—The Color of Water addresses racial identity with compassion, insight, and realism. It is, in a word, inspiring, and you will finish it with unalloyed admiration for a flawed but remarkable individual. And, perhaps, a little more faith in us all. This "fascinating...superbly written" memoir (Boston Globe)

tells the story of James McBride and his mother—a rabbi's daughter, born in Poland and raised in the South, who fled to Harlem, married a black man, founded a church, and put twelve children through college. Lavishly praised by critics, and embraced by millions of readers, this tribute to a remarkable woman is an eloquent exploration of what family really means.

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

"The Color of Water [will] make you proud to be a member of the human race."
—Mirabella



"[A] triumph."
—The New York Times Book Review

JAMES MCBRIDE

Desire of the Everlasting Hills: The World Before and After Jesus

by Thomas Cahill

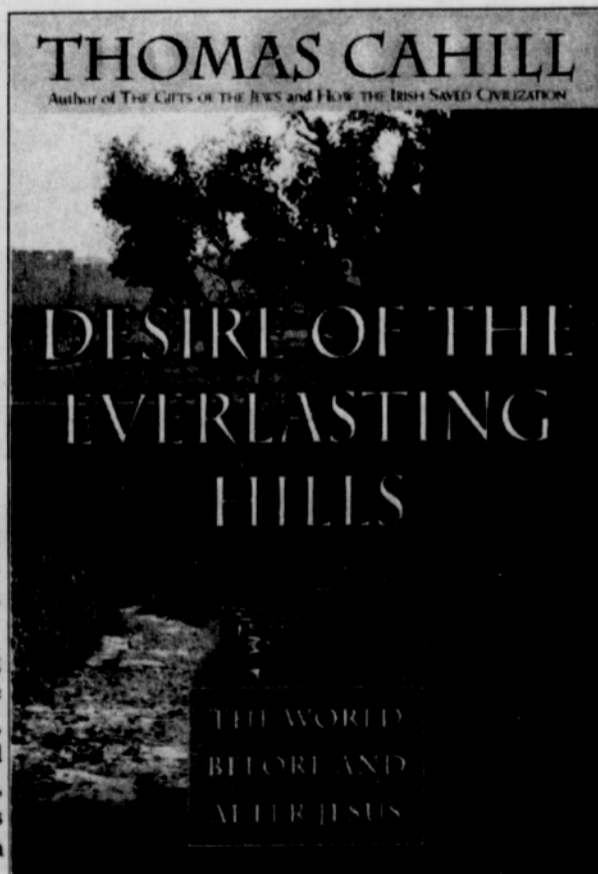
Hardcover - 353 pages (November 2, 1999)
Doubleday Books

Desire of the Everlasting Hills is another present from the pen of Thomas Cahill, author of How the Irish Saved Civilization </exec/obidos/ASIN/0385418493/102-7870970-6492813> and The Gifts of the Jews </exec/obidos/ASIN/0385482493/102-7870970-6492813>. In this third volume of the bestselling Hinges of History series, he knits together history, politics, sociology, and faith with contemporary insights that yield remarkable results. After painting with broad brush strokes an entertaining picture of the Greek, Jewish, and Roman world, Cahill focuses on Jesus. With

illuminating deductions and clever speculation, Jesus is seen through the eyes of his biographers in their Gospel accounts. Each of these authors' lives is reconstructed in such a way that the richness of their writing and their subject matter is wonderfully enhanced. The section on Paul, detailing how his life and letters shaped the early church, should be required reading for every student of the Bible. From his beginnings in the cosmopolitan city known as Tarsus through his

calling, like the patriarchs and prophets before him, he becomes "the perfect vehicle for this moment in the development of the Jesus Movement." His mix of Greek reasoning with rabbinical training casts the stories of the early church into a thoughtful theology. He is seen here as the earliest egalitarian who not only impacted the early church but all of western civilization. Cahill challenges many traditional

religious ideas while also taking on some of the more radical contemporary interpreters of Biblical literature. As with the other volumes in this series, the marginal notes are filled with a wealth of interesting information. Combining his own fresh translation of many New Testament highlights with respect and humor, Thomas Cahill's book is for the believer and nonbeliever alike. —Tracy Danz amazon.com



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