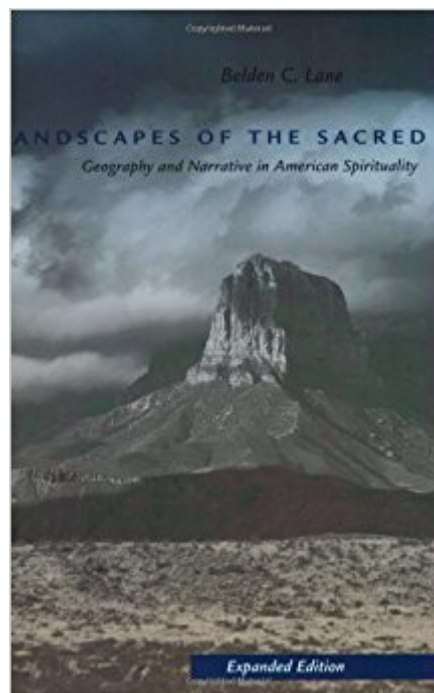




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Landscapes Of The Sacred: Geography And Narrative In American Spirituality



Synopsis

This substantially expanded edition of Belden C. Lane's *Landscapes of the Sacred* includes a new introductory chapter that offers three new interpretive models for understanding American sacred space. Lane maintains his approach of interspersing shorter and more personal pieces among full-length essays that explore how Native American, early French and Spanish, Puritan New England, and Catholic Worker traditions has each expressed the connection between spirituality and place. A new section at the end of the book includes three chapters that address methodological issues in the study of spirituality, the symbol-making process of religious experience, and the tension between place and placelessness in Christian spirituality.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Lane's vast array of case studies and allusions is analyzed by a fertile imagination that bounces between ethnography, iconography, phenomenology, and poetics. A joy to read, this richly footnoted study is mind-boggling in its provocative assertion of the deep mysteries of place-bound identities." (Choice) "This expanded edition of Lane's 1988 book benefits from over a decade of heightened scholarly interest in place and religion." (Quincy D. Newell Religious Studies Review) "Both scholar and pilgrim, Belden Lane provides us a remarkably informed, reflective, personal account of Americans' sense of sacred space." (Journal of Cultural Geography)

"Lane offers an essay tour that is also a tour de force." (Catherine L. Albanese Horizons) "Clearly

written and grounded in far-ranging scholarship... Anyone interested in American history and, more specifically, with American spirituality will be deeply enriched by studying (not just reading) this brilliant text." (Most Rev. Robert F. Morneau, auxiliary bishop of Green Bay, Wisconsin St. Anthony Messenger)"Read Belden Lane's book and you will encounter your own desire for that elusive sacred country where the ordinary world changes from the moment to the eternal, where opposites are reconciled and all things are drawn to the center in an irresistible confluence." (Ruth M. Slickman Review for Religious)"[Lane] points to things I have quietly suspected, though never have been able to articulate... For a culture obsessed with time and time management, Lane's study is a quiet reminder of the formative effect of space." (George R. Graham Weavings)"Landscapes of the Sacred is primarily a work in Christian spirituality, but it also ranges over religious traditions, literary landscapes, and personal experiences, illuminating a path to deeper understanding of the sacred meanings attached to places. This is no shallow synthesis. By constantly attending to concrete descriptions of places, and the tensions and contradictions that arise in the interpretation of sacred space, Lane provides direction for anyone seeking to understand this issue." (Timothy Hessel-Robinson ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment)

This book is simply incredible. Belden Lane brings us into the landscape as if it were fiction, writing descriptively and simply that make the act of reading this book seem meditative and prayerful. I was lucky enough to take a class with Belden and he is as marvelous and a delightful storyteller in person as he is in this book. Highly recommended!

Belden Lane is a scholar, poet, visionary, theologian. Landscapes of the Sacred is my third of his books to read and I have on hand Ravished by Beauty to read next. Lane, Thornton Wilder, and the theologian Ellen Davis are my favorite authors.

Belden Lane is insightful, full of wisdom and really causes one to think about our world and place in it. Highly recommended

If you've read Lane's "Solace of Fierce Landscapes" you'll want to read "Landscapes of the Sacred". "Landscapes" was actually written before "Solace," but has been recently reprinted by John Hopkins Press with an expanded introduction. There's lots here for anyone interested in the cultural, religious, spiritual, and philosophical aspects of how we human beings experience place, especially those places that have sacred significance. The historical background on Puritans and Native

American spirituality are especially welcome.

This is one of those books that I treat myself to read, that is, I read just a few sections of each chapter to make it last longer. It is not only a book that captures one's attention, but moves one's spirit to greater depths. I am also intrigued by the scholarship and research that have gone into making this book a reality. I am looking forward to reading other works by Belden Lane.

Perfect condition.

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