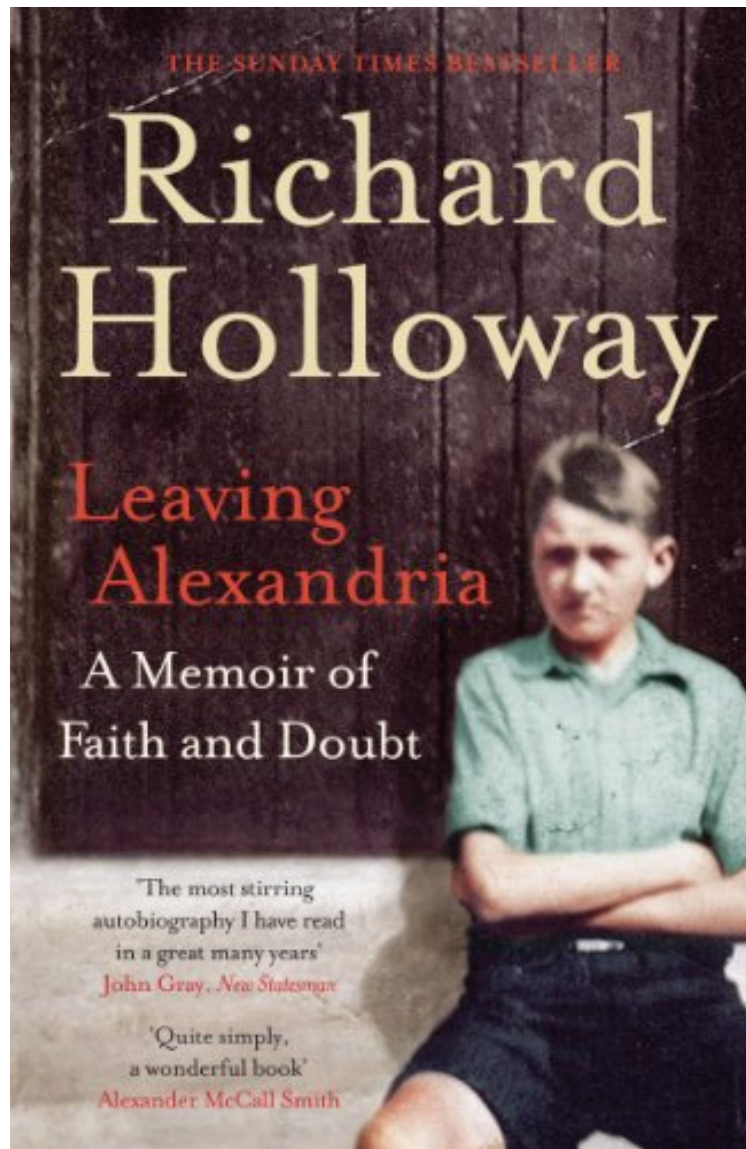


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## Leaving Alexandria: A Memoir of Faith and Doubt

Von Richard Holloway

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**Von Richard Holloway : Leaving Alexandria: A Memoir of Faith and Doubt** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Leaving Alexandria: A Memoir of Faith and Doubt:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A life lived with his eyes openVon Karl MaenzaA wonderful man, seduced as we are by what cannot be defined, and what makes us human. And then, his realization that religion, once pronounced absolute, is so dangerous in its non-scientific claims and intolerance. He realizes we need the arts, and religion is part of the arts, and it is human, not

godly, and this makes the book fascinating. If you don't have the time to read it all, the epilogue is fabulous, it says it all.

Kurzbeschreibung At the tender age of fourteen, Richard Holloway left his home town of Alexandria, north of Glasgow, and travelled hundreds of miles to be educated and trained for the priesthood at an English monastery. By the age of twenty-five he had been ordained and was working in the slums of Glasgow. Through the forty years that followed, Richard touched the lives of many people as he rose to one of the highest positions in the Anglican Church. But behind his confident public faith lay a restless heart and an inquisitive mind. Poignant, wise and fiercely honest, *Leaving Alexandria* is a remarkable memoir of a life defined by faith but plagued by doubt. Pressestimmen "At a time when the world has urgently needed wise and compassionate leadership, this poignant memoir, written with the integrity, intelligence and wit that we expect from Richard Holloway, lays bare the ludicrous and entirely unnecessary mess we have made of religion." --Karen Armstrong "Vivid and fascinating . . . A delight and inspiration to believers, non-believers, and ex-believers alike." --Philip Pullman "A highly readable insight into one of the most humane and engaged minds of our times. It is, quite simply, a wonderful book." --Alexander McCall Smith Richard Holloway's memoir is endlessly vivid and fascinating. It's the record of a mind too large, too curious and far too generous to be confined within any single religious denomination. His account of how a passionate, intelligent boy grew out of a poor and deprived background without ever losing touch with the humane values it gave him, will be a delight and inspiration to believers, non-believers, and ex-believers alike--Philip Pullman Beautifully written and dramatically candid--Pat Kane "The Independent" "Leaving Alexandria is many things. It is a compelling account of a journey through life, told with great frankness; it is a subtle reflection on what it means to live in an imperfect and puzzling world; and it is a highly readable insight into one of the most humane and engaged minds of our times. It is, quite simply, a wonderful book--Alexander McCall Smith Nobody could fail to be intensely moved by the final chapters of his memoir . . . a deeply lovable man; and what a wonderful book he has written--Mary Warnock "The Observer" "This courageous book summarises an argument that a lot of people will find sympathetic, and compelling--Andrew Motion "Guardian" "A wonderfully honest and deeply moving reflection on the nature of doubt, saintly almost in its modesty - though Holloway might not like my saying so. A breath of fresh doubt that so many of us need, whether believer or nonbeliever, and I'm both--MICHAEL MORPURGO This is an intellectual account which is thoughtful, starkly honest, and at moments touching in its understated wisdom and sensitivity . . . an engaging examination of an individual's growth as a compassionate human being--Catherine Lerner "We Love this Book" Publishers like to describe autobiographies as 'journeys', but it's a term this book deserves--Alastair Mabbott "the Herald" "It absorbs and refreshes the mind . . . it is the pleasure of following a good, restless mind through questions that afflict all but the most thoughtless--John Lloyd "Financial Times" "Exceptional...it is rare to find someone in whom intellectual and emotional intelligence combine so movingly--Maggie Ferguson "Intelligent Life" "There's something to cheer on almost every page here, not least his enviable honesty about his personal shortcomings--Arminta Wallace "Irish Times" "An enlightening walk through a life that encompasses West Africa, the Gorbals, rent strikes, the divided self and the question of grace--Mark Cousins "Scotland on Sunday" "[Leaving Alexandria] could have been a litany of self-justification, or an awakening to enlightenment. Instead, it's the book of his life: the engrossing log of a troubled, thoughtful, clouded journey from certainty to doubt--Susannah Herbert "Mail on Sunday" "This book offers quite unique insights into a troubled, contemporary religious mind. It also reminds us that, in Richard Holloway, Episcopal Edinburgh may have lost a thoughtful bishop but Scotland gained a unique social critic and commentator--Alex Wood "Lothian Life" "Captures the bewildering range of churches within the Church . . . Holloway certainly throws down the gauntlet - with a quiet, elegiac passion - to Christians who arm themselves in certainty . . . They should read this wide, erudite book as a matter of urgency--David Robson "The Sunday Telegraph" "This is a portrait of a formerly devoted Christian who, by confessing his faults and doubts to us, becomes exemplary, an Everyman, and a guide to how we too might lose faith without sacrificing our souls--Alain de Botton "The Times" "Leaving Alexandria gives a profound sense of the benefits, as well as the difficulties, that accrue from taking a zigzag path through life . . . it summarises an argument that a lot of people will find sympathetic, as well as compelling--Andrew Motion "The Guardian" "A profound and lyrical book--Arifa Akbar "Independent i" "Peppered with prose and poetry, the book underlines a profound love of literature. 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compassionate leadership, this poignant memoir, written with the integrity, intelligence and wit that we expect from Richard Holloway, lays bare the ludicrous and entirely unnecessary mess we have made of religion Karen Armstrong \* Leaving Alexandria is many things. It is a compelling account of a journey through life, told with great frankness; it is a subtle reflection on what it means to live in an imperfect and puzzling world; and it is a highly readable insight into one of the most humane and engaged minds of our times. It is, quite simply, a wonderful book -- Alexander McCall Smith \* Richard Holloway's memoir is endlessly vivid and fascinating. It's the record of a mind too large, too curious and far too generous to be confined within any single religious denomination. 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Holloway certainly throws down the gauntlet - with a quiet, elegiac passion - to Christians who arm themselves in certainty ... They should read this wide, erudite book as a matter of urgency -- David Robson The Sunday Telegraph \* This book offers quite unique insights into a troubled, contemporary religious mind. It also reminds us that, in Richard Holloway, Episcopal Edinburgh may have lost a thoughtful bishop but Scotland gained a unique social critic and commentator -- Alex Wood Lothian Life \* This is a portrait of a formerly devoted Christian who, by confessing his faults and doubts to us, becomes exemplary, an Everyman, and a guide to how we too might lose faith without sacrificing our souls -- Alain De Botton The Times \* This is a deeply moving and disturbing biography. 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