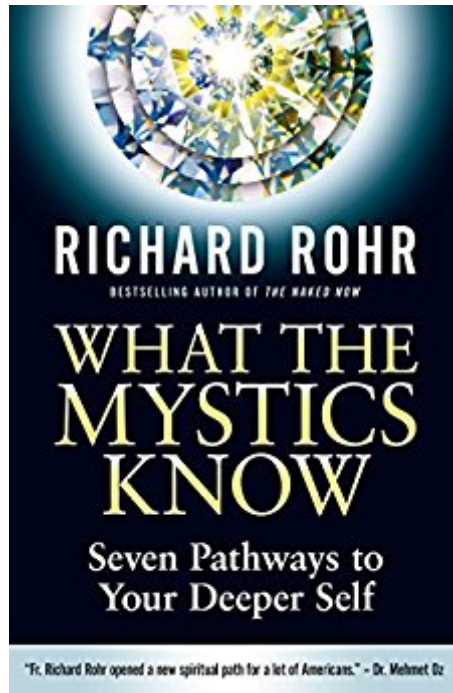


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# What The Mystics Know: Seven Pathways To Your Deeper Self



## Synopsis

Drawing from the best and most poetic of Richard Rohr's essays from nearly a quarter of a century, each chapter in this new collection examines one of the seven core mystical truths. Organized according to the mystical paths that every worshiper must follow, Rohr identifies the despair of everyday life, promotes opportunities for change even in the face of pain, thereby transforming one's deeper self into a beacon of light that aids in the perpetual metamorphosis of others. Illuminating these insights with reflections on Christian and Jewish scriptures while citing the greatest religious writers throughout the ages, Rohr offers an unparalleled window into the wisdom of the mystics, within a succinct volume that represents the best treasury of his vast library of writing.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

When one is working on deepening one's relationship with Jesus Christ, this book comes in very strong. Rohr gives us vignettes to mediate on that are life changing and call us to the challenge of truly being a disciple of Jesus. I especially liked the entry of p.111-112 in which he states:"- learning

how to be taught, how to receive love, how to be healed and transformed- before they would dare to father or mother others." I also like Rohr's thoughts on "What you think God is, He isn't". In this meditation he states: "(You only get to know God) through painful encounters with the living God where you feel your flesh being torn off and yet you do not die. Then you experience another kind of life, another kind of freedom. Christians call it the life of the risen Jesus." There are so many meditations in the book that resonate with being a disciple of Jesus.

As an Episcopal priest, I had often heard of Richard Rohr, and had been encouraged to read him. We did have a video series at our church that amounted to my introduction to him. Apart from that, this book has served as my introduction to this dedicated Christian mystic and compassionate contemporary. There's nothing "linear" here, such as a step-by-step instruction in the seven pathways which provide the framework for this book. Rather, others have apparently suggested to Fr. Rohr meaningful passages from his corpus of writings, which have then been collected and grouped under those seven parts or paths. Each little selection is an end in itself, in my opinion, very useful I suspect as a daily reading for one's devotion life, not sequentially connected to the one before or after. The photos and artwork add to the appeal for me, at least. I have only applause for this book, from a modern colleague in ministry, whose ministry I more and more appreciate and honor.

RE-CENTERING ON GOD - Full book review: <http://www.primelifers.org/reviews2.php> I've been a fan of Richard Rohr since reading "Falling Upward" in 2013 and "Eager To Love" in 2014. Richard Rohr is an authentic spiritual teacher who promotes balancing Christian contemplation with action. His views are a unique blend of orthodox, yet iconoclastic (meaning he's an equal opportunity religious offender in a good way). So, what exactly is a Christian mystic? Since the word mystic has some negative baggage, as in "so heavenly minded they're of no earthly good", I was interested to read what the widely respected Franciscan Friar had to say on the subject. Rohr defines a "Christian mystic" is anyone who places experiencing God personally as their number one priority, as opposed to simply knowing about God in Scripture, church doctrine and theology. Rohr advocates prioritizing God-centeredness to rule over self-centeredness, a basic Kingdom principle...

Paradoxically easy to read but hard to get through. Fr. Rohr's thoughts are packaged in small, short sections, hardly a page long, with a succinct title, but you find you don't want to rush through - you want to think about what he's saying. One passage that comes to mind is on page 26: "Worthy and

Unworthy". He examines the oppression of poverty and why it can only be understood from the inside. A very thought-provoking guide to Catholic mysticism.

He's my favorite teacher of all time. I love his very practical and to the point version of "what is a mystic?" Friar Rohr says that a mystic is someone who has experience of God; not just knowing dogma and ritual practices.

I don't know if I have the words. I don't think that I could state adequately what a treasure this book is. There are no wasted words. Each word is full of inspiration, peace, joy and love.

Hard to get into but, worth the effort. Richard Rohr has way with words that makes it clear, he is special soul. I would encourage all not only Catholics to read his works.

Read it as more of a daily reflections.

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