

(Download ebook) Breakfast with the Pope

Breakfast with the Pope

Susan Vigilante

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#2248071 in Books Richard Vigilante Books 2010-11-16Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.41 x .90 x 6.10l, .90 #File Name: 0980076382208 pages | File size: 58.Mb

Susan Vigilante : Breakfast with the Pope before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Breakfast with the Pope:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable and insightful readBy hanesVigilante combines the Irish gift of story telling, the brash honesty and wit of a New Yorker and a passionate love for all things Italian in the memoir of her own spiritual journey. She blames God but she doesn't and strives to find meaning and reason in all the sufferings she experiences. I too suffered from infertility and felt a worthless failure at life. At times clinging to faith and striving for perfection in the hope God would give me what I needed to be happy. In the end, it doesn't work because 1.) we can never be perfect and 2.) it is not what we have that makes us happy. Life is a constant struggle to

achieve happiness. Susan's story of her own struggle will really resonate with those of us who struggle to love God as we should (to be saints) but bump heads with our own faults and desires. As with a true pilgrimage, Susan's story of her journey interweaves the moments of sadness and struggle with times of beauty, joy and humor making for an enjoyable and insightful read.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Vigilante is a very smart, very thoughtful writer

By dragonlady Vigilante is a very smart, very thoughtful writer, who tells a nice story as she thinks about bigger things. Her sensibilities are anchored in the modern world in which we live, with its doubts and dismissal of things spiritual, challenges and life disappointments, including some big ones. She grapples here with the overarching question of how to be a believer in God and God's mercy when it is sometimes hard to discern God's presence and will -- or when you don't like the answer. Well worth reading. I wish there were more works by her out there.

10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. an astonishing book and a rare glimpse - for the unfaithful - of what faith must feel like

By Sam Schulman This book, alternately charming and harrowing, is a memoir of a life, a marriage, of childlessness, and of a series of trials that an extraordinarily honest and talented woman undergoes while living a life that is unremarkable in many ways, but is made extraordinary by the character of the writer and of the people who love her - some of them abundantly, but most of them, in the way that we humans have, insufficiently and partially. And most of all, a life transformed - in one way - by a series of encounters with one of the great figures of the last century, John Paul II - and yet, in the manner of great figures - not changed at all.

For those who are puzzled or irritated by the notion of religious faith, it will be a profound and consistently interesting revelation of how it feels to believe, and to believe in the face of disappointment and seeming indifference on the part of the divinity one worships. In this sense, and in its shape and its comprehension, *Breakfast with the Pope* is a contemporary re-thinking and re-experiencing of the Book of Job.

But don't let this Job stuff put you off - it is a book that is chatty, charming, and clearly the work of a writer who we all can recognize - modern, funny, Italy-loving, urbane, and unflappable - and painfully honest. The book contains one huge lie, however, in its best sentence: "Like most people who know me well, [my sister] Mary Beth did not especially like me." Well, I don't know if it is a lie in Vigilante's experience, but *sub specie aeternitas*, it is. In the great trilogy by Flora Thompson, "Lark Rise to Candleford," a gypsy fortune-teller tells the little girl who grows up to write the book, "you are going to be loved by people you've never seen and never will see." This is Susan Vigilante's fortune as well.

A Christian Eat Pray Love Susan Vigilante, an average Catholic wife from Long Island, woke up one morning in the romantic Italian hillside near the ancient village of Castel Gandolfo and had breakfast with Pope John Paul II. How did she get here? *Breakfast with the Pope* is the funny, endearing, searing, and relentlessly honest story of a woman on a pilgrimage, a woman who has failed for years to become the writer she longs to be, who yearns for the children she is unable to bear, who seeks to find the promised God of love amidst the wreckage of failed human relationships. This is a book you will never forget, an often funny, always deeply moving spiritual memoir about seeking faith in the midst of doubt, compassion in the midst of suffering, and above all choosing love even knowing that it never comes without pain.

"Read this book. *A Christian Eat Pray Love*, it will change forever how you think about faith. Like life itself it alternates between being funny-as-hell and emotionally wrenching, an inner glimpse of the experience of barrenness: spiritual, physical, and professional, which is overcome by one woman's stubborn and relentlessly honest search for faith. Vigilante's appreciation of the beauties of Italy and her deeply personal portrait of John Paul II are a great gift to those who love either. --Maggie Gallagher