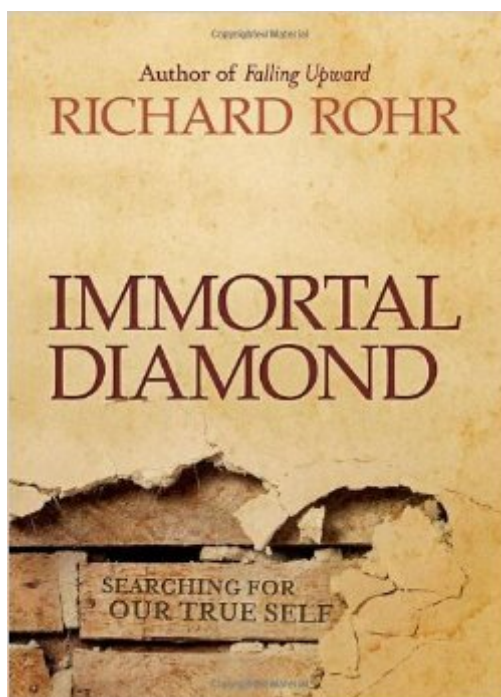


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Immortal Diamond: The Search For Our True Self



Synopsis

Dissolve the distractions of ego to find our authentic selves in God In his bestselling book *Falling Upward*, Richard Rohr talked about ego (or the False Self) and how it gets in the way of spiritual maturity. But if there's a False Self, is there also a True Self? What is it? How is it found? Why does it matter? And what does it have to do with the spiritual journey? This book likens True Self to a diamond, buried deep within us, formed under the intense pressure of our lives, that must be searched for, uncovered, separated from all the debris of ego that surrounds it. In a sense True Self must, like Jesus, be resurrected, and that process is not resuscitation but transformation. Shows how to navigate spiritually difficult terrain with clear vision and tools to uncover our True Selves

Written by Father Richard Rohr, the bestselling author of *Falling Upward* Examines the fundamental issues of who we are and helps us on our path of spiritual maturity *Immortal Diamond* (whose title is taken from a line in a Gerard Manley Hopkins poem) explores the deepest questions of identity, spirituality, and meaning in Richard Rohr's inimitable style.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Although I've only recently become aware of the work and writing of Richard Rohr, I've been engaged in Centering Prayer for nearly a decade. Having become convinced that the psychological and spiritual foundations of this practice are profoundly valid, I have read and re-read virtually everything written by Thomas Keating, the primary proponent of this re-imagined method of developing a contemplative life for the "secular" person. One of the most valuable and vital aspects of this brilliant merging of theology, spirituality and psychology is the articulation of the human

condition and the True Self/False Self conceptualization as a replacement for the more traditional language of "Original Sin". This most recent book by Rohr is an incredibly valuable further development of these insights, and contains some absolutely priceless discussion of True Self and False Self and the applications of understanding them to our everyday circumstances. Although this book was purchased from by my husband, I literally "jumped on it" as soon as it was delivered; hence, this is not one of my own "Verified Purchases". Also, this is a quick review, designed to express my unbridled enthusiasm more than deep analysis. I will leave that for more qualified reviewers, simply saying: I LOVE it: READ it! As I indicated at the beginning, although I haven't read as much by Richard Rohr as I have by Thomas Keating and other authors who write on the contemplative theme, I find his work extremely accessible and very much to the point. "Immortal Diamond" has captivated even more because Rohr references the work of two other authors whose writing represents landmarks for my own spiritual journey, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin and Cynthia Bourgeault (I have written reviews for several of their books elsewhere on). Now if only there was some way that I could communicate to Fr. Rohr the importance of the work of one other author, Kittredge Cherry, whose "Jesus in Love" novels have provided the ultimate impetus for my journey, I would feel that the circle was indeed complete.

Oh, man. Just finished this book. What revelations! I figured it was just another trinket, sales of which would support Richard's "Center" in Albuquerque. What an incorrect and snide thought on my part: this is good stuff. I've been to "hear" the man many times now; I ALWAYS learn--it seems, along WITH him--something new. Get the book...and be on the way to YOUR own true self. [First, ever, review of anything.]

This book is a must read for anyone on a serious spiritual search. It will make sense most to those conversant with the Christian tradition, but he writes in a way that is accessible to all serious seekers of the truth. This is not another New Age feel good book, not another "The Secret" gimmick. There are deep truths here, rooted in the Christian and Jewish scriptures. However, if you believe that your brand of religion has all the answers and there is no room for another viewpoint, then please avoid this book because it will only make you angry. I am a Presbyterian minister and I had no trouble understanding Father Rohr despite the vast difference in our backgrounds. I give it my highest recommendation.

Ready to experience the mystical side of Christianity with a Franciscan friar? Here's a journey that

Father Richard Rohr promises will secure a happier existence. It's the quest for your True Self ... the resurrected self, the "immortal diamond" deep within you, which he says is neither God nor human, but both at the same time. It took me a little longer than usual to get into the book, which keeps it below a five-star review, but it was worth the persistence. My problem was that Rohr writes with a sort of matter-of-fact authority that left me wondering if I missed the proof text somewhere along the way. Perhaps I did; Rohr has published around two dozen books since his first in 1976, and this is the first I've read. Rohr's target is those who sense God is closer than they've been told. If you find yourself "in recovery from religion," you're in Rohr's crosshairs. He wants to introduce you to a deeper meaning to life, deeper even than the surface Christian tradition that has been your paradigm to date. While Rohr's heritage is clearly Judeo-Christian, and many of his quotes come from the Bible, he aims at uncovering the perennial truths that all religions share. Resurrection is key, both of our Lord and of ourselves. Resurrection is necessary for new life, life in unity with God. As "children of the resurrection" (Luke 20:36), our relationship with God changes ... we "breathe God in and out--much more than we 'know' God, understand God, or even talk to God." There is an intimacy with God at this level that we never reach within our selfish, base existence, the "False Self." A deep read, if you're ready to take the leap.

Richard is my most reliable guide into the MYSTIC. I've read most--if not all--of his books, so I can categorically say that with this one he compresses his wisdom into an even simpler yet multifaceted gem: the better to reflect the LIGHT that is the VERB that IS creation. With each book, ROHR comes ever-nearer to the clarity that is SPIRIT once released from accrued religious opacity. This book is simultaneously a primer AND yet a much deeper meditation into vivid and lucid unveilings.

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