



Markings

By Dag Hammarskjold

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Markings By Dag Hammarskjold

"Perhaps the greatest testament of personal devotion published in this century." — *The New York Times*

A powerful journal of poems and spiritual meditations recorded over several decades by a universally known and admired peacemaker. A dramatic account of spiritual struggle, *Markings* has inspired hundreds of thousands of readers since it was first published in 1964.

Markings is distinctive, as W.H. Auden remarks in his foreword, as a record of "the attempt by a professional man of action to unite in one life the *via activa* and the *via contemplativa*." It reflects its author's efforts to live his creed, his belief that all men are equally the children of God and that faith and love require of him a life of selfless service to others. For Hammarskjöld, "the road to holiness necessarily passes through the world of action." *Markings* is not only a fascinating glimpse of the mind of a great man, but also a moving spiritual classic that has left its mark on generations of readers.

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Editorial Review

Review

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"The conviction when one has finished [*Markings* is] that one has had the privilege of being in contact with a great, good, and lovable man."—W. H. Auden

From the Inside Flap

A book of meditations. A revealing spiritual self-portrait by one of the great peacemakers of our times.

Maturity: Among other things, the unclouded happiness of the child at play who takes it for granted that he is at one with his playmates.

Never, "for the sake of peace and quiet," deny your own experience or convictions.

The only kind of dignity which is genuine is that which is not diminished by the indifference of others.

Pray that your loneliness may spur you into finding something to live for, great enough to die for.

Never measure the height of a mountain until you have reached the top. Then you will see how low it was.

About the Author

Dag Hammarskjold was born in Sweden in 1905 and died in Northern Rhodesia in a plane crash in 1961, while flying there to negotiate a cease-fire between United Nations and Katanga forces. Elected Secretary-General of the United Nations in 1953, serving until his death, he was known throughout the world as a peacemaker. He had studied law and economics, but was also widely read in philosophy and literature. His internal struggles remained a private matter between him and God until after his death, when this book of meditations was published, making him posthumously one of the twentieth century's most noted spiritual pilgrims.

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