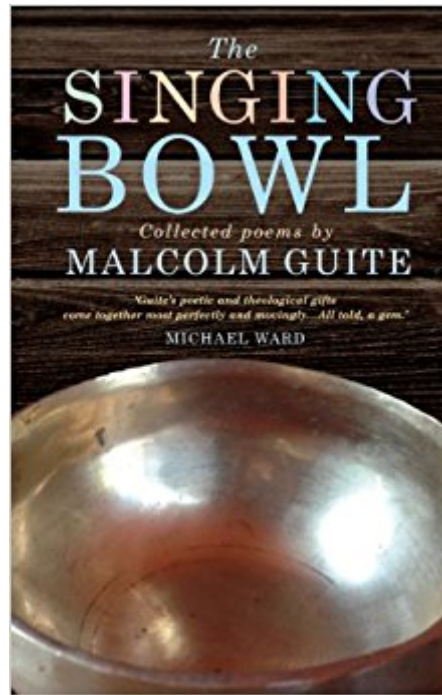


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The Singing Bowl



Synopsis

Malcolm Guite's eagerly awaited second poetry collection includes poems that seek beauty and transfiguration in the everyday; sonnets inspired by Francis and other outstanding saints; poems centred on love, parting and mortality. A further group, 'Word and World', searches for the life of the spirit in the midst of modernity and includes an ode to an iPhone, while others wrestle with the problem of evil and the difficulty of prayer. Throughout, the poet seeks to celebrate the world of which he is made, find heaven in the ordinary and echo a little of its music.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars See all reviews (8 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I have a hard time keeping this book in my library as I keep giving it away, usually with a cry of "you will LOVE this!" They always do. Thanks, Malcolm, for your words and your spirit. These poems are as true as they come.

The singing bowl is an invitation to experience the sacramental beauty of all things. Like the masterful priest-poet George Herbert, Malcolm Guite displays many of the same characteristics of devout devotion to the real gospel and a deep sense of the connectedness of all things in Christ. All things are instruments of grace! The jamming my machine poem is hilarious, and a must read on his view of poetry, taken from an influence from Shakespeare. Also, the poem on using our words is profound and very convicting. For all that are interested, enjoy!

Singing bowls are believed to have originated in the Himalayan region at least ten centuries ago. A

singing bowl is actually a standing bell, designed to rest on a solid surface with the open end facing up, which is played by either striking the rim with a padded mallet or rubbing the mallet around the rim. The resulting sound is a fundamental frequency (also known as first harmonic), the lowest tone produced by an instrument, with two harmonic overtones usually audible as well. In Buddhist practice, singing bowls mark the beginning and end of a period of silent meditation. They may also signal a change in activity, or simply mark the passage of time. More widely, singing bowls are used in many cultures worldwide in religious observances, yoga practices, and various types of music and sound therapy. Their tones are believed to promote relaxation, personal well-being, and healing. Each of the poems in this volume, as well as the collection as a whole, serves in some way as a singing bowl, resonating on a number of levels, inviting exploration of different tones and ways of hearing words, prompting reflection, and creating a space for quietness in which healing may begin.

A treat for soul and spirit. Quite may well reignite a full appreciation for the power of poetry to provoke response and inspire new contours of thinking and re-thinking. Every poem is a treasure and must be slowly absorbed for full effect. His compact lines and weighty words hold more dynamite than most prose.

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