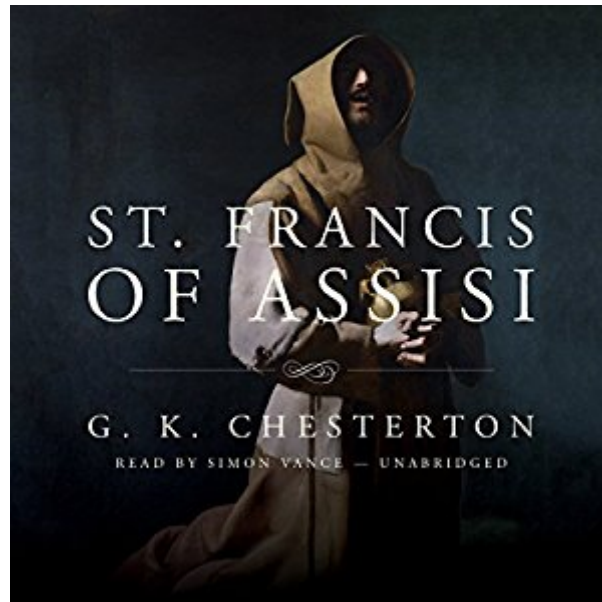




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St. Francis Of Assisi



Synopsis

Saint Francis of Assisi is one of the most influential men in the whole of human history. This acclaimed biography of Saint Francis examines the life of a pure artist, a man "whose whole life was a poem". Here is the Saint Francis who prayed and danced with pagan abandon, who talked to animals, and who invented the *crocifisso*. Yet Francis also acknowledged the mystic responsibility to communicate his divine experience. Chesterton examines the existence of the pure eccentric and the devout mystic in one man, offering an understanding of Saint Francis in both body and soul. It has been said that G. K. Chesterton converted to Catholicism in 1922 because "only the Roman Church could have produced a Saint Francis of Assisi". This biography, published shortly after Chesterton's conversion, is universally considered the best appreciation of Francis' life, one that gets to the heart of the matter.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

With a new Pope taking the name of Francis I was prompted to read GK Chesterton's book. I couldn't put it down. It wasn't just a pious book, but the story of an amazing mystic I really knew very little about. Just historically it is amazing series of events. This is a book for everyone. Writing as Chesterton knew how, and something I'll read again and again. I would recommend it to everyone - not just Christians, but everyone.

In this short bio, we can see Chesterton's admiration for Francis. The author's own love of God's

creation is something that he focuses on in the Italian Saint. This work seeks to play the middle ground, as Chesterton mentions a couple of times, and neither firmly accepts or denies the miraculous claims attributed to Francis. Some of Chesterton's typical wandering into philosophical discussion breaks the flow. But he manages to tie it in well to the over-all work. The chronology does not seem to flow, but rather the author seems to approach thoughts about Francis as they come to mind. With that being said, the chronology given at the end is helpful.

Although written almost 100 years ago, the book by G. K. Chesterton shows the remarkable life of St. Francis. Chesterton was a big admirer of Francis; the life and preaching of Francis was a factor in his conversion to Roman Catholicism. I am not going to convert, but I am also a huge admirer! Some of Francis' stories may be problematic for the modern reader (the stigmata, for example), but Chesterton approaches these in a thoughtful way. His prose may be a bit old-fashioned, but if you read it carefully, it is full of humor and insight. A wonderful read.

In his typical and insightful way, Chesterton gives his view on the well known saint against the backdrop of modernist critique. I would recommend reading a biography first, but this is a well worth read and stunningly poetic at times.

Chesterton did a wonderful job, exploring St Francis' life and bringing his personality and faith to us. There is only one thing that spoiled the book for me: truly appalling printing errors - it appears there are no proof readers anymore... : it starts on the back cover where you can read "Assini" instead of Assisi and it gets worse inside the book. Still, I can recommend the book and if you can find a different edition, all the better.

St. Francis of Assisi is a very strange personage of the Catholic Church, but with a great love for what he was doing. He has been living in poverty and have passion for theatrical performances. He wasn't really a nature lover, but what he had been done was teaching his followers the meaning to love God but through what He create. Illness was his biggest enemy in this world in his last days of live but he had been carrying his cross by trusting in the truly Creator for salvation of his soul and the souls of others. Nice presentation of a saint in his days living on this planet.

St Francis explained like only G K Chesterton can.

A classic!

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