

Interior States: Essays

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## Summary:

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"Meghan O'Gieblyn's deep and searching essays are written with a precise sort of skepticism and a slight ache in the heart. A first-rate and riveting collection."

--Lorrie Moore

A fresh, acute, and even profound collection that centers around two core (and related) issues of American identity: faith, in general and the specific forms Christianity takes in particular; and the challenges of living in the Midwest when culture is felt to be elsewhere.

What does it mean to be a believing Christian and a Midwesterner in an increasingly secular America where the cultural capital is retreating to both coasts? The critic and essayist Meghan O'Gieblyn was born into an evangelical family, attended the famed Moody Bible Institute in Chicago for a time before she had a crisis of belief, and still lives in the Midwest, aka "Flyover Country." She writes of her "existential dizziness, a sense that the rest of the world is moving while you remain still," and that rich sense of ambivalence and internal division inform the fifteen superbly thoughtful and ironic essays in this collection. The subjects of these essays range from the rebranding (as it were) of Hell in contemporary Christian culture ("Hell"), a theme park devoted to the concept of intelligent design ("Species of Origin"), the paradoxes of Christian Rock ("Sniffing Glue"), Henry Ford's reconstructed pioneer town of Greenfield Village and its mixed messages ("Midwest World"), and the strange convergences of Christian eschatology and the digital so-called Singularity ("Ghosts in the Cloud"). Meghan O'Gieblyn stands in relation to her native Midwest as Joan Didion stands in relation to California - which is to say a whole-hearted lover, albeit one riven with ambivalence at the same time.

Interior States: Essays by Meghan O'Gieblyn Yet once again, Nervous Breakdown Book Club drags me out of my reading comfort zone into a world of phenomenal essays touching on topics as disparate as John Updike, Christian Music, and Michigan. The author, now secular, was once a home-schooled evangelical who studied at a famous bible college. Interior States by Meghan O'Gieblyn | PenguinRandomHouse.com About Interior States "Meghan O'Gieblyn's deep and searching essays are written with a precise sort of skepticism and a slight ache in the heart. A first-rate and riveting collection." Interior States "Meghan O'Gieblyn interior states: essays Available October 9, 2018 "Meghan O'Gieblyn's deep and searching essays are written with a precise sort of skepticism and a slight ache in the heart.

Interior States: Essays: Meghan O'Gieblyn: 9780525562702 ... Interior States: Essays [Meghan O'Gieblyn] on Amazon.com. \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Meghan O'Gieblyn's deep and searching essays are written with a precise sort of skepticism and a slight ache in the heart. The Millions: Interior States: Essays by Meghan O'Gieblyn After finishing Interior States, I returned to the William James essay that O'Gieblyn so appropriately quoted. He finishes that piece with a meditation upon the value of pragmatism: "Rationalism sticks to logic and the empyrean. Book giveaway for Interior States: Essays by Meghan O ... 10 free copies available. Giveaway dates from Sep 01-Sep 28, 2018. Enter for a chance to win Meghan O'Gieblyn's essay collection INTERIOR STATES.

Nonfiction Book Review: Interior States: Essays by Meghan ... O'Gieblyn, whose essays have appeared in the New Yorker, Best American Essays, and the New York Times, muses on various religious topics in this delightful debut. Standout essays include. Interior States: Essays (Paperback) | Boswell Book Company Her essays have appeared in Harper's Magazine, n+1, The Point, The New York Times, The Guardian, The New Yorker, Best American Essays 2017, and the Pushcart Prize anthology. She received a B.A. in English from Loyola University, Chicago and an MFA in Fiction from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

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