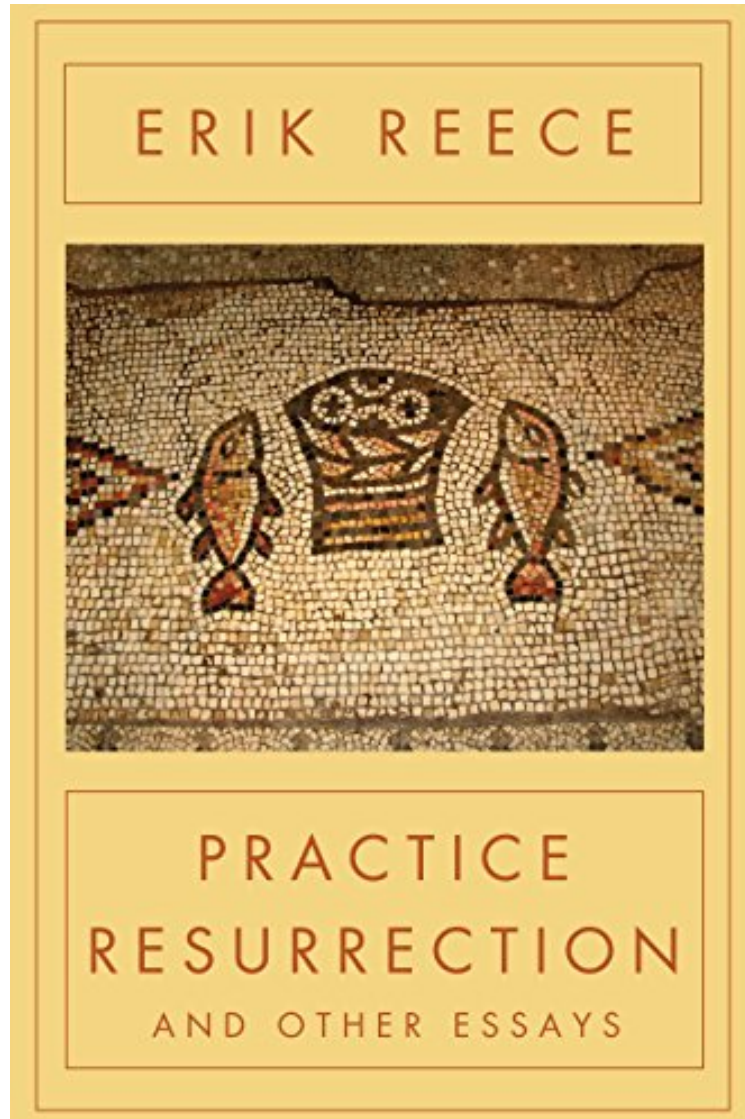


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Practice Resurrection: And Other Essays

Erik Reece

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Erik Reece : Practice Resurrection: And Other Essays before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Practice Resurrection: And Other Essays:

A student of Wendell Berry and Guy Davenport, Erik Reece is a strong and eloquent voice for a new generation of dedicated activists fighting on behalf of the embattled wilderness and the future of our planet. A master of the personal essay, his work has also deeply explored the role of religion in the American family.In Reeces new collection of

essays, *Practice Resurrection*, ideas are the main characters. Written over ten years, and revealing Reeces continued obsession with religion, family and the natural world, in many ways these essays represent a sequel to his stirring memoir, *An American Gospel: On Family, History and the Kingdom of God*. In that book, Reece intimately describes his conflicted relationship with Christianity in the context of the death of his father, a Baptist minister from rural Virginia who committed suicide at age thirty-three, and Reeces own journey since then to find meaning and balance in the material and spiritual worlds. Approaching variably through the lenses of travel, economics, and environmental stewardship, and with the ideas of great American thinkers (Thoreau, Berry, Davenport, Emerson) echoing in the background, *Practice Resurrection* provide readers refreshing new ways to value human spirituality and the natural environment.

"With his singular wit and pith, environmental writer Reece explores issues such as God, Christianity, the environment (of course), and his fathers suicide in essays rife with sentient turns of phrase and exceptionally insightful passages...few are better than [Reece] is at discussing a personal crisis of faith although he prefers to say his religion vanished like a mist off the creek in such authentic language. For Reece, universal truth is personal." Starred Booklist "[A] fine collection, which will interest readers grappling with how to think of their faith in an environmentally precarious world." *Publishers Weekly* "[D]elightful and illuminating. Reece's insightful, witty, and reflective essays offer up new ways of thinking about spirituality, culture, and the environment." *Kirkus* Praise for *An American Gospel: On Family, History, and the Kingdom of God* Written with a scholars precision but in frank, readable prose, the book advances an optimistic, intellectual, environmentalist reclamation of sacred Christian beliefs and of Americans complex relationship with Jesus. *Kirkus* "Sometimes religious inspiration can come from the most unlikely places...[Reece] intercalates his personal story, which is one of great tragedy, with those of [the] great historical figures. His goal is not quite clear from the outset, but that is the point. He is searching for a form of Christianity that he can live with." *Publishers Weekly* "Erik Reeces *An American Gospel* is a rich and poignant memoir of the authors theological grappling...The story he tells here is one that will resonate with many in the postmodern generations, pointing the way past that place where religion has broke down for the final time is left discarded on the side of the road." *The Englewood of Books*