



Being Christian

K.C. Boyd

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The product of a violent home, John Christian Hillcox overcomes long odds to build a Texas megachurch where he preaches the gospels of prosperity and End Times, and pulls the political strings of a key voting bloc. A man of enormous appetites and inadequate self-control, Pastor Hillcox rallies his flock to oppose everything he considers immoral and detrimental to the United States being a godly, Christian nation. Being Christian is a gripping psychological tale of a man who uses religion to justify his own sins and lies, heedless of the consequences for his loved ones, his community, and the world at large. The story of this larger-than-life, but familiar, character follows him from his crime-ridden early adulthood to the prime of his ministry in post-9/11 America. Not since Elmer Gantry has a novel so exposed the religious flim-flammy and hypocrisy that threaten to tear apart the American social and political fabric. Being Christian is a quintessentially American story, based on the ideologies and personalities that make the news every day with their challenges to the Constitutional religious/political divide.

Being Christian Details

Date : Published August 1st 2012 by Rebel Island Press

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Author : K.C. Boyd

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From Reader Review Being Christian for online ebook

Alan Michael Wilt says

In this fascinating novel, K. C. Boyd explores extreme right-wing Christianity in American today by focusing the life and career of a Texas megachurch pastor, Christian Hillcox, who strives to break free of the bonds of his own checkered past to influence everything from public policy on abortion to Mideast policy and the coming of the "end times."

Being Christian is on one level a character study of the Pastor Hillcox. He is a complex man who has learned the arts of manipulation from his abusive father and is profoundly insecure at his own core. His actions as a young man and his relationships as a mature and successful church leader are symbolic of how, in extreme religion, the emphasis on sexuality demonstrates its leadership's ambiguity and poor understanding regarding sexuality as functions of biology, love, and control. His ability to hold all others accountable while never failing to excuse his own many flaws and sins holds up to the light the manner in which ideologues manipulate their own intellects to maintain understandings that are self-contradicting and beyond proof.

More than simply exposing right-wing Christianity on ideological and theological grounds, *Being Christian* allows us a look at the inner workings of the men (and it is mostly men) who lead their congregations to extreme and dangerous beliefs.

Mike says

Not what I expected based on book description. It was an interesting read with a twist on what traditional Christianity is about. Would have liked to have seen the main character developed more as to the why of his actions.

Leah Burton says

Being Christian: A Novel is a riveting story that you will put down only to take a deep breath before you dive back in. The characters are fictional, yet have real-day counterparts that are their identical twins in religion and politics today. That is what makes this novel such an important read for all Americans as we face a growing surge of theocrats whose aim is to proclaim the United States as a Christian nation that places biblical law over civil law.

Sarah says

i received this book for free through Goodreads first reads.
The character of John Christian Hillcox Left me wide mouthed.
This book even being fictional, brings up real life situations, the hypocrisy etc
very gripping and astonishing.

Lynn Garson says

The greatest lampoon of the religious right that I have ever read! Superbly written, funny, witty and incisive-socio-political commentary doesn't get any better than this. What an imagination this author has! This is a must read for anyone who takes his or her serving of religious hypocrisy with a dark entree and a side of humor.

HJ says

Interesting read, while it is listed as a fiction book I found the story to be true to some modern issues. The book made some good points on modern political religious thought without being overly preachy or condescending. I read this in tandem with The Handmaidens Tale and enjoyed the book.

Kaite says

I won a free copy from the Goodreads First Reads Giveaway Program and think that it interesting. I would recommend it to everyone.

Chris Brude says

I enjoyed the subject matter and Boyd's astute analysis of Christian Hillcox, (the mega church pastor whose conversion and ascendancy make up the plot of the book), much more than Boyd's execution of the plot. If you've ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes in the lives of these megalomaniacal preachers, Boyd does a great job filling in the blanks.
