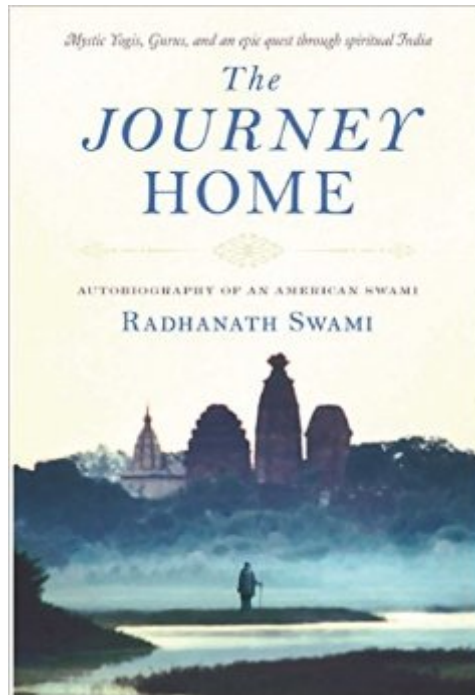


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The Journey Home: Autobiography Of An American Swami



Synopsis

Within this extraordinary memoir, Radhanath Swami weaves a colorful tapestry of adventure, mysticism, and love. Readers follow Richard Slavin from the suburbs of Chicago to the caves of the Himalayas as he transforms from young seeker to renowned spiritual guide. *The Journey Home* is an intimate account of the steps to self-awareness and also a penetrating glimpse into the heart of mystic traditions and the challenges that all souls must face on the road to inner harmony and a union with the Divine. Through near-death encounters, apprenticeships with advanced yogis, and years of travel along the pilgrim's path, Radhanath Swami eventually reaches the inner sanctum of India's mystic culture and finds the love he has been seeking. It is a tale told with rare candor, immersing the reader in a journey that is at once engaging, humorous, and heartwarming.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Why I liked *The Journey Home*? The author didn't have an extraordinary religious background or exposure to spiritual discourses, mystic performances or personal experiences in his childhood days. In that sense, his early days are easy to relate to. And he was no different than many of the American youth of those times who found the fabric of society lacking in integrity and consistency, for they couldn't reconcile selfish pursuit of happiness on one end with rigid moral codes of conduct on the other. But what was different in him was that he was not fanatically opposed to establishments of any kind as were the others, and chose to search for answers through submissive inquiry and honest hope. He listened to the heart and learnt everything from scratch, but permanently "brick by brick." He was truly introspective while contemplating, yet observant while

learning. And he never took a half-hearted step. He always gave every path a full chance to act on him and to reveal itself, but never committed his entire life to it unless supported by his heart. So deep was his tenacity to the heart's call, that he undertook formidable hardships to follow it. But while his purpose was focused, he never missed an opportunity to pick up invaluable gems of knowledge along the path. Alert to every lesson life had to teach, he took each event as deep experiences touching his core and made firm resolutions reflecting and effecting the quantum changes in his consciousness. Destiny does favour those who align themselves to it with their own efforts. Nothing proves this better than his journey – the song of the river, getting stranded in Lord's birthplace, picking the picture of the Lord from among a host of other pictures as though finding a needle from a haystack.

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