

## 1: Can You Trust Thomas Merton? | Catholic Answers

*Through the Year With Thomas Merton: Daily Meditations from His Writings [Thomas P. McDonnell] on www.enganchecubano.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. A meditation a day from Thomas Merton This convenient day book is a compendium of inspiring passages from the writings of one of this century's spiritual giants.*

Donate For five decades, the circumstances of the sudden death of the famed pacifist monk Thomas Merton have remained cloaked in the confusion of assorted stories having very little commonality, except for the most basic facts of date and place. The date, December 10, , and place, in a cottage located at a Red Cross conference center near Bangkok, Thailand are about the only undisputed points of yet another death of a hero in that very violent year. Even the time of death, approximately 2 P. Army, embalmed and flown back to the United States on a military aircraft also transporting other casualties of the Vietnam War being fought nearby. The Journals of Thomas Merton Vol. The Martyrdom of Thoma While barefoot on the terrazzo floor, he apparently had reached for the large standing fan to either turn it on or pull it closer to the bed when he received the full volts of direct current. This is normal voltage for Bangkok. He collapsed, and the large fan tumbled over on top of him. When he was discovered about an hour later by two of the monks who shared his cottage, the fan, still running, lay across his body. One of the abbots tried to remove the fan at once from the body, but though he wore shoes, he also received a slight electrical shock. Fortunately, someone rushed over to the outlet and pulled the cord from the socket. Later examination revealed defective wiring in the fan. Not only was there no evidence that Merton had taken a shower, or collapsed into a disheveled pile onto the floor, a large cut and contusion on the back of his head was not noted at all, and photographs taken immediately after his deathâ€”which had been kept virtually hidden for forty-nine yearsâ€”show that his body was lying perfectly straight, with his arms lying beside his body, just as it might be placed into a coffin. Furthermore, their own intensive investigation into the matterâ€”it soon becomes clear that indeed, it was the only such honest and thorough examination ever done, even though limited to the few remaining artifactsâ€”led them to make the following series of assertions [p. The CIA had the motive and they had the means. The Other Side of the Thomas Merton Best Price: In all cases, they called the death an accidental electrocution, caused by a faulty fan. In their book, authors Turley and Martin categorically reject that and provide detailed explanations for why they view it as impossible, which for our purposes will be summarized without going into the detail uniquely provided by their book. An ulterior motive was also advanced by authors Turley and Martin, that of fleshing out the attitudes of two other key attendees of the Thailand conference, Fr. Order of Saint Benedict and Fr. Ultimately, it was determined that they would not attempt such a challenge. That sudden trip, in and of itself, is most curious, considering that Jones was not a wealthy man and most reports indicated that he ran his weekly newspaper on a very small budget. Yet, after that conversion, he would spend the rest of his life refuting any and all suggestions of evidence pointing toward conspiracy. That movement was cemented when he joined the staff of the Sixth Floor Museum, located in the Texas School Book Depository Building in the early s, eventually becoming the director of the museum. McLendon had also known and associated with Jack Ruby. Moreover, Jones was also very closely connected to Mary Ferrell, whom researcher Harrison Edward Livingstone described at length in his book Killing the Truth: How each of them apparently became connected to the CIA is entirely speculative of course since that is not addressed in their obituaries or any other publicly available documents. When he retired from the Guard in , according to Wikipedia, then-Governor John Connally promoted him to Brigadier General, possibly as a favor to maximize his pension. Johnson for decades and Henry Wade later the District Attorney in Dallas, also closely connected to Johnson since their days in law classes at the University of Texas, also documented at the Wikipedia website for Penn Jones. Among those were long-hidden, highly-revealing photographs described above of the body of Thomas Merton as it was found in a position that was completely at odds with all of the false stories of death by either heart attack or electrocution by a defective Hitachi fan. I believe it is but one document that might have caused the name of Thomas Merton to be added to other lists, both within the White House and those being maintained farther up, and across the opposite side, of the Potomac River, in Langley, Virginia. There were certain

boundaries that could not be crossed with Lyndon B. Johnson, and those three would have represented, to him, three strikes. And they were all executed with the active provocations of the two men at the very head of the hierarchy, Lyndon B. Only the combined power wielded by them could have reasonably equippedâ€”with the eager assistance of intelligence officials from the military, the CIA, and key members of the Dixie Mafiaâ€”the facilitators and street-level operatives with the kinds of resources, and spheres of influence in the local communities involved Dallas, Memphis and Los Angeles , to have succeeded in accomplishing their multiple missions. The most powerful man in America circa â€” was Lyndon B. That it was he who instigated all of these major treasons should by now be indisputable. Clearly, the assassination of Thomas Merton in Thailand on December 10, was one more in that same year intended to put an end to the lives of the most powerful and influential men who he thought might one day expose his treachery and treasons. Thomas Merton, the Hermitage Years, â€” As noted in my book, LBJ: John Howard Griffin Best Price:

### 2: A Year with Thomas Merton: Daily Meditations from His Journals by Thomas Merton

*Thomas Merton was one of the most influential Catholic authors of the 20th century. A Trappist monk of the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani, in the American state of Kentucky, Merton was an acclaimed Catholic spiritual writer, poet, author and social activist.*

Merton was six years old. Still grieving for his mother, Thomas never quite warmed to Scott. During the winter of , while in Algeria, Owen Merton became ill and was thought to be near death. Thomas returned to France with mixed feelings, as he had lived with his grandparents for the last two years and had become attached to them. After the trip to New York, Owen Merton realized that Thomas would not be reconciled to Scott and broke off his relationship with her. There, Merton felt lonely, depressed and abandoned. During his initial months at the school, Merton begged his father to remove him. With time, however, he grew comfortable with his surroundings. During the Christmas breaks of and , he spent his time with friends of his father in Murat, Auvergne. He admired the devout Catholic couple, whom he saw as good and decent people, but religion only once came up as a topic between them. Merton expressed his belief that all religions "lead to God, only in different ways, and every man should go according to his own conscience, and settle things according to his own private way of looking at things. As he came to understand later, they realized that his attitude "implied a fundamental and utter lack of faith, and a dependence on my own lights, and attachment to my own opinion"; furthermore, since "I did not believe in anything, Merton was soon enrolled in Ripley Court Preparatory School , another boarding school, this one in Surrey. On Sundays, all students attended services at the local Anglican church. Merton began routinely praying, but discontinued the practice after leaving the school. During Easter vacation in , Merton and Owen went to Canterbury. Merton enjoyed the countryside around Canterbury, taking long walks. When the holiday ended, Owen returned to France, Merton to Ripley. Toward the end of that year, Merton learned that his father was ill and living in Ealing. Merton soon learned his father had a brain tumor. He took the news badly, but later, when he visited Owen in hospital, the latter seemed to be recovering. At the end of the first year, his grandparents and John Paul visited him. His grandfather discussed his finances, explaining that he would be provided for if Owen died. Merton and the family spent most of that summer visiting the hospital to see his father, who was so ill he could no longer speak. This caused Merton much pain. On January 16, , at the start of term at Oakham, Owen died. He allowed Merton to use his unoccupied house in London during the holidays. Upon his return to Oakham, Merton became joint editor of the school magazine, the Oakhamian. At that time in his life, Merton was an agnostic. In , on a walking tour in Germany, he developed an infection under a toenail. He ignored it, and it developed into a case of blood poisoning so severe that at one point he thought he was going to die. But "the thought of God, the thought of prayer did not even enter my mind, either that day, or all the rest of the time that I was ill, or that whole year. Or if the thought did come to me, it was only as an occasion for its denial and rejection. On his 18th birthday, and tasting new freedom, he went off on his own. Scoldingly, Bennett granted his request, which may have shown Merton he cared. Merton then walked to Saint Tropez , where he took a train to Genoa and then another to Florence. From Florence he left for Rome, a trip that in some ways changed the course of his life. Rome [ edit ] Two days after arriving in Rome in February , Merton moved out of his hotel to a small pensione with views of Palazzo Barberini and San Carlo alle Quattro Fontane , two magnificent pieces of architecture rich with history. I had been in Rome before, on an Easter vacation from school, for about a week. I had seen the Forum and the Colosseum and the Vatican museum and St. But I had not really seen Rome. This time, I started out again, with the misconception common to Anglo-Saxons, that the real Rome is the Rome of the ugly ruins, the hills and the slums of the city. He did not participate in Masses, but simply observed and appreciated them. In its apse , he saw a great mosaic of Jesus Christ come in judgment in a dark blue sky and was transfixed. Merton had a hard time leaving the place, though he was unsure why. Merton had found the Rome he said he did not see on his first visit: From this point on in his trip he set about visiting the various churches and basilicas in Rome, such as the Lateran Baptistery , Santa Costanza , the Basilica di San Clemente , Santa Prassede and Santa Pudenziana to name a few. One night in his pensione, Merton sensed for

a few moments that Owen was in the room with him. The mystical experience focused him on the emptiness he felt in his life, and, for the first time, he really prayed, asking God to deliver him from darkness. While visiting the church there, he was at ease, yet when entering the monastery he was overtaken with anxiety. Alone that afternoon, he remarked to himself, "I should like to become a Trappist monk. Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. April Learn how and when to remove this template message Merton took a boat from Italy to the United States to visit his grandparents in Douglaston for the summer, before entering Clare College. Initially he retained some of the spirit he had had in Rome, continuing to read his Latin Bible. He wanted to find a church to attend, but had still not quite quelled his antipathy towards Catholicism. Merton appreciated the silence of the atmosphere but did not feel at home with the group. By mid-summer, he had lost nearly all the interest in organized religion that he had found in Rome. At the end of the summer he returned to England. Merton, now 18, seems to have viewed Clare College as the end-all answer to his life without meaning. In *The Seven Storey Mountain*, the brief chapter on Cambridge paints a fairly dark, negative picture of his life there but is short on detail. He drank to excess, frequenting local pubs instead of studying. He also indulged in sexual licence, with some friends calling him a womanizer. By any account, this child has never been identified. In May Merton left Cambridge after completing his exams. This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. July Learn how and when to remove this template message In January , Merton enrolled as a sophomore at Columbia University in Manhattan. He lived with the Jenkins family in Douglaston and took a train to the Columbia campus each day. These years were also a time in his life where he realized others were more accepting of him as an individual. In short, at 21 he was an equal among his peers. At that time he established a close and long-lasting friendship with the proto-minimalist painter Ad Reinhardt. Merton began an 18th-century English literature course during the spring semester taught by Mark Van Doren , a professor with whom he maintained a friendship until death. Van Doren did not teach his students in any traditional sense; instead he engaged them, sharing his love of literature. Merton was also interested in Communism at Columbia, where he briefly joined the Young Communist League ; however, the first meeting he attended failed to interest him further, and he never went back. The two brothers spent their summer breaks bonding with each other, claiming later to have seen every movie produced between and He began working for two school papers, a humor magazine called the *Jester* and the *Columbia Review*. Merton also became a member of Alpha Delta Phi that semester and joined the *Philolexian Society* , the campus literary and debate group. The *Casa Italiana*, established in , was conceived of by Columbia and the Italian government as a "university within a university". Merton also joined the local peace movement, having taken "the Oxford Pledge" to not support any government in any war they might undertake. Merton and his grandfather had grown rather close through the years, and Merton immediately left school for home upon receiving the news. In it he encountered an explanation of God that he found logical and pragmatic. Tom had purchased the book for a class on medieval French literature , not seeing the nihil obstat in the book denoting its Catholic origin. This work was pivotal, paving the way for more encounters with Catholicism. In January , Merton was graduated from Columbia with a B. He then continued at Columbia, doing graduate work in English. Merton was impressed by the man, whom he saw as profoundly centered in God, but expected him to recommend his religion in some manner. Instead, Brahmachari recommended that they reconnect with their own spiritual roots and traditions. Although Merton was surprised to hear the monk recommend Catholic books, he read them both. He also started to pray again regularly. Mass was foreign to him, but he listened attentively. While doing his graduate work, he was writing his thesis on William Blake , whose spiritual symbolism he was coming to appreciate in new ways. Suddenly, he could not shake the sense that he, too, should follow such a path. He headed quickly to the Corpus Christi Church rectory, where he met Fr. George Barry Ford, and expressed his desire to become Catholic. In the following weeks Merton started catechism , learning the basics of his new faith. Merton decided he would pursue his Ph. In January , Merton had heard good things about a part-time teacher named Daniel Walsh, so he decided to take a course on Thomas Aquinas with Walsh. Merton and Walsh developed a lifelong friendship, and it was Walsh who convinced Merton that Thomism was not for him.

### 3: The Mysterious Death of Thomas Merton - LewRockwell

*I greatly enjoyed working my way through this daily Merton reader a few years back. It offers a great cross-selection of the various moods and genres of Merton's considerable writing career--from the political to the mystical, from angry to profound.*

Unfortunately my reading was not exactly daily, but sometimes more like weekly, or worse, as I missed days and then had to catch up. Nevertheless, I really loved the readings, and liked the practice of doing them--even if it will take more practice to do them daily. Merton lives near the outdoors, and has a lot to say about them. The readings are extracted from his journals from the years and they are selected so that ones written in a I had never before read a daily meditation book. The readings are extracted from his journals from the years and they are selected so that ones written in a given month are read in that month--so there is a real sense of the cycle of seasons. March 19 -Yesterday, in Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, suddenly realized that I loved all people and that none of them were or could be totally alien to me. As if waking from a dream--a dream of my separateness I am only another member of the human race, like the rest of them. I have the immense joy of being a man, a member of a race in which God himself became incarnate And if only everybody could realize this! But it cannot be explained. There is no way of telling people that they are all walking around shining like the sun. Kathy grew up in Louisville, and knows Fourth and Walnut. March 24 -A flash of sanity: We are heading for a "new era" or we are heading for destruction. What do such judgments mean? Things are as they are in an immense whole of which I am a part and which I cannot pretend to grasp This is especially relevant as we watch the seeming endless disasters unfolding on the evening news lately. October 25 -Many strange things I remember: Why think of that? Merton comes across as in his other writings as a deep and at the same time an ordinary person. He is not, and does not want to be, the sort of saint that we can afford to ignore because of a chasm separating us. But I just got ahold of a book of daily meditations with Rilke--and that is what I will try next.

### 4: Through the Year with Thomas Merton : Thomas Merton :

*A meditation a day from Thomas Merton This convenient day book is a compendium of inspiring passages from the writings of one of this century's spiritual giants. It offers daily challenges for thoughtful meditation intended to stimulate, provoke, and lead to grace.*

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### 7: Thomas Merton Prayer | Not Always On

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## THROUGH THE YEAR WITH THOMAS MERTON pdf

*Thomas Merton (), a Trappist monk, was one of the most well-known Catholic writers of the 20th century. He was the author of more than 60 books, including the story of his conversion, Seven Storey Mountain, a modern spiritual classic.*

### 9: Through the Year with Thomas Merton by Thomas Merton

*About Through the Year With Thomas Merton. A meditation a day from Thomas Merton This convenient day book is a compendium of inspiring passages from the writings of one of this century's spiritual giants.*

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