

crazy for god frank schaeffer

Crazy for God Frank Schaeffer: A Journey Through Faith, Doubt, and Revelation

crazy for god frank schaeffer is a phrase that instantly connects to a compelling story of faith, transformation, and outspoken critique. Frank Schaeffer, a prominent author and filmmaker, is best known for his memoir **Crazy for God**, which chronicles his upbringing in a deeply religious evangelical family, his rise within that world, and his eventual breakaway from the evangelical movement. His journey is not only a personal odyssey but also a window into the complex relationship between religion, culture, and politics in modern America.

In this article, we'll explore the life and works of Frank Schaeffer, delve into the themes of **Crazy for God**, and unpack why his story resonates with so many people grappling with faith and ideology today.

Who Is Frank Schaeffer?

Frank Schaeffer is an American author, film director, and outspoken critic of evangelical Christianity. Born in 1952, he is the son of Francis Schaeffer, a well-known evangelical theologian and founder of the L'Abri community in Switzerland. Growing up in this environment gave Frank an intimate look at evangelical beliefs and their impact on both individuals and society.

Early Life and Religious Upbringing

Frank's childhood was steeped in evangelical doctrine, with a strict adherence to conservative Christian values. His family's influence was profound, shaping his worldview and eventually inspiring him to become a prominent voice within the evangelical community himself. However, this upbringing

also planted the seeds of doubt and conflict, as Frank struggled to reconcile his personal experiences with the rigid expectations of his faith.

From Devout Believer to Vocal Critic

After years of active involvement in the evangelical movement—including writing books and producing films supporting conservative Christian causes—Frank Schaeffer underwent a dramatic transformation. His memoir **Crazy for God** details his disillusionment with the evangelical world, especially as he witnessed the growing intertwining of religion with right-wing politics.

This shift from devout believer to vocal critic is a defining aspect of Frank's public life. He has since become an advocate for secularism, religious tolerance, and critical thinking, often challenging the very community he once championed.

Understanding **Crazy for God: The Memoir That Sparked Conversations**

Crazy for God is not just a memoir; it is a candid and sometimes controversial exploration of evangelicalism's impact on personal identity and political culture. The book offers readers an insider's perspective on the emotional and intellectual struggles of growing up in a religious environment that demands absolute loyalty.

The Themes Explored in **Crazy for God**

Several key themes emerge from Frank Schaeffer's **Crazy for God** that help explain why the book continues to resonate:

- **Faith and Doubt:** Frank's journey is a powerful example of the tension between believing and questioning, showing how doubt can coexist with deep spiritual yearning.
- **Family and Identity:** The memoir highlights the challenges of breaking away from familial expectations and forging an independent identity.
- **Religion and Politics:** Schaeffer critiques how evangelical Christianity became increasingly politicized, influencing American culture and policy.
- **Love and Forgiveness:** Despite his criticisms, Frank's story is also one of compassion and reconciliation, emphasizing the need for understanding beyond ideological divides.

Impact of the Book

Since its release, **Crazy for God** has sparked important conversations about the role of religion in public life and the struggles of those who feel trapped between faith and skepticism. It's often cited in discussions about evangelical culture and has become a touchstone for people questioning their own religious upbringing.

Frank Schaeffer's Broader Work and Influence

Beyond **Crazy for God**, Frank Schaeffer has contributed extensively to literature, film, and social commentary, offering nuanced perspectives on faith, politics, and culture.

Books and Writings

Frank has authored several other books, including:

- *Sex, Mom, and God* – Continuing his narrative of personal and spiritual exploration.
- *Patience with God* – A look at faith's complexities in a modern world.
- *Keeping Faith* – A novel exploring the intersections of religion and family dynamics.

His writings often blend memoir, satire, and social critique, making them accessible and thought-provoking for a wide audience.

Filmmaking and Media Appearances

As a film director and producer, Frank Schaeffer has created documentaries and films that address religious themes and cultural conflicts. His media presence also includes appearances on television and podcasts, where he shares insights on current events, evangelicalism, and secularism.

The Legacy of Crazy for God Frank Schaeffer in Today's Context

In an era where religion and politics continue to collide, Frank Schaeffer's story remains highly relevant. His willingness to speak openly about his doubts and the contradictions within evangelical culture offers a model for honest dialogue.

Lessons From Frank Schaeffer's Journey

For readers and observers, there are several valuable takeaways from Frank's experience:

1. **Embrace Complexity:** Faith is rarely black and white. Recognizing complexity can lead to deeper understanding.
2. **Questioning is Healthy:** Doubt does not equal failure; it can be an essential part of spiritual growth.
3. **Respect Different Perspectives:** Even when disagreeing, approaching others with empathy fosters better conversations.
4. **Be Wary of Mixing Religion and Politics:** Frank's critique highlights the dangers of conflating spiritual beliefs with political agendas.

Why **Crazy for God** Still Matters

The memoir's enduring popularity shows that many people are searching for authentic stories about faith that do not shy away from controversy or complexity. It's a reminder that spiritual journeys are deeply personal and often unpredictable.

Whether you are someone wrestling with your own beliefs or simply interested in the cultural dynamics of American religion, **Crazy for God** and Frank Schaeffer's broader work provide valuable insights.

Frank Schaeffer's narrative, as told in **Crazy for God**, is far more than a personal memoir; it's a reflection of broader societal shifts and the challenges of navigating faith in a turbulent world. His candid voice invites readers to consider their own beliefs and encourages a more open, honest discussion about what it means to be "crazy for God" — whether that means unwavering devotion or a critical reexamination.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Frank Schaeffer, the author of 'Crazy for God'?

Frank Schaeffer is an American author, filmmaker, and former evangelical Christian who wrote 'Crazy for God' as a memoir detailing his upbringing in a fundamentalist Christian family and his eventual departure from that faith.

What is the main theme of 'Crazy for God' by Frank Schaeffer?

The main theme of 'Crazy for God' is Frank Schaeffer's critical exploration of the rise of the religious right in America and his personal journey from being a devout evangelical to a vocal critic of fundamentalism and the religious-political movement.

When was 'Crazy for God' by Frank Schaeffer published?

'Crazy for God' was published in 2007.

Why is 'Crazy for God' by Frank Schaeffer considered controversial?

The book is considered controversial because Frank Schaeffer openly criticizes the evangelical Christian movement, the religious right, and their influence on American politics, which has sparked debate among religious and political communities.

How has 'Crazy for God' influenced discussions about religion and politics?

'Crazy for God' has contributed to discussions by providing an insider's perspective on the evangelical movement, highlighting the dangers of mixing religion with politics, and encouraging critical examination of fundamentalist beliefs and their impact on society.

Are there any follow-up works by Frank Schaeffer related to 'Crazy for God'?

Yes, Frank Schaeffer has written several other books and produced documentaries that continue to explore themes of religion, politics, and culture, further expanding on the issues raised in 'Crazy for God.'

Additional Resources

Crazy for God Frank Schaeffer: An In-Depth Exploration of a Controversial Voice in American Evangelicalism

crazy for god frank schaeffer is a phrase that immediately evokes curiosity about one of the most provocative figures in contemporary religious discourse. Frank Schaeffer, an author, filmmaker, and outspoken critic of evangelical fundamentalism, is widely known for his candid reflections on faith, politics, and culture. His journey from a deeply entrenched evangelical upbringing to a vocal skeptic of the movement offers a compelling narrative that spans decades of American religious history. This article delves into the complexities of Frank Schaeffer's life, his influential work "Crazy for God," and his evolving stance on evangelical Christianity, providing a nuanced, professional review of his impact and legacy.

Frank Schaeffer: Background and Context

Frank Schaeffer is the son of Francis Schaeffer, a prominent evangelical theologian and founder of the L'Abri community in Switzerland. Growing up in this environment, Frank was immersed in conservative evangelical thought from an early age. His experiences within the evangelical world formed the basis for much of his later critique. Schaeffer's early career included writing, filmmaking, and active participation in evangelical circles, but his perspective shifted dramatically over time.

The title "Crazy for God" refers to Schaeffer's autobiographical work published in 2007, where he recounts his upbringing, the intense zealotry he witnessed, and his eventual disillusionment with the evangelical movement. The book is a candid memoir that blends personal narrative with sharp social commentary, making it a significant contribution to the genre of religious memoirs and evangelical criticism.

Crazy for God Frank Schaeffer: An Analytical Review of the Memoir

"Crazy for God" is not merely a personal story; it serves as a critical lens through which readers can understand the broader evangelical culture of the late 20th century. Schaeffer's writing style is direct and unvarnished, reflecting his intent to expose what he perceives as the dangers and hypocrisies within fundamentalist Christianity. The memoir addresses themes such as religious zealotry, political activism, familial conflict, and the struggle between faith and doubt.

Thematic Exploration

One of the central themes of "Crazy for God" is the conflict between individual conscience and dogmatic belief systems. Schaeffer portrays how evangelicalism, in his experience, often suppresses

personal questioning in favor of rigid doctrinal adherence. This tension is vividly illustrated through his descriptions of his family dynamics, where faith was intertwined with authority and control.

Another critical theme is the intersection of religion and politics. Frank Schaeffer traces the rise of the Religious Right in America, linking it to the evangelical movement's growing political influence. He reflects on how this alliance shaped public discourse and contributed to cultural polarization. His insider perspective offers valuable insights into the motivations and consequences of evangelical political activism.

Writing Style and Narrative Approach

Schaeffer's narrative is conversational yet incisive, combining memoir with social critique. His prose engages readers by balancing personal vulnerability with analytical rigor. This approach enables "Crazy for God" to appeal both to those familiar with evangelical culture and outsiders seeking to understand it. The memoir's structure, which alternates between intimate storytelling and broader reflections, enhances its readability and impact.

The Evolution of Frank Schaeffer's Views Post-"Crazy for God"

Since the publication of "Crazy for God," Frank Schaeffer has continued to evolve as a public intellectual. He has distanced himself further from evangelicalism, often identifying as a secular humanist or progressive thinker. His critiques have expanded to include not only evangelical fundamentalism but also the cultural and political forces that sustain it.

Public Engagement and Media Presence

Frank Schaeffer has contributed to numerous publications, including The Huffington Post and The

Daily Beast, where he discusses religion, politics, and social justice. His media appearances and lectures often emphasize themes such as religious tolerance, the dangers of dogmatism, and the need for empathy in public discourse. This ongoing engagement underscores his transformation from evangelical insider to outspoken critic.

Comparisons to Other Evangelical Critics

In the landscape of evangelical criticism, Schaeffer's voice is distinctive for its personal authenticity and familial connection to evangelicalism's intellectual heritage. Unlike some critics who approach the subject from an external perspective, Schaeffer's background lends his critiques a unique credibility. Comparatively, his work sits alongside other former evangelicals such as Richard Beck and Dan Kimball, but his familial ties to Francis Schaeffer add a layer of complexity to his narrative.

Impact and Reception of "Crazy for God"

The reception of "Crazy for God" has been mixed, reflecting the contentious nature of its content. Among secular and progressive audiences, the memoir has been praised for its honesty and courage in confronting evangelical excesses. Conversely, some within evangelical circles have criticized Schaeffer for airing "dirty laundry" and misrepresenting the faith community.

Pros and Cons of Schaeffer's Approach

- **Pros:** Offers an insider's perspective, encourages open dialogue about faith and doubt, and highlights the socio-political implications of evangelicalism.
- **Cons:** At times, the narrative can appear one-sided, focusing heavily on negative experiences

without equal emphasis on positive aspects of faith communities.

Influence on Religious Memoir Genre

"Crazy for God" has contributed to a growing body of literature where former believers critically examine their faith journeys. Its blend of personal storytelling and social analysis has inspired other authors to explore similar themes, enriching the genre and expanding public understanding of evangelical subcultures.

Keywords and SEO Considerations

When discussing "crazy for god frank schaeffer," it is important to incorporate related keywords and phrases that enhance search engine visibility while maintaining natural readability. Key LSI keywords include "Frank Schaeffer evangelical critique," "Crazy for God book review," "Frank Schaeffer memoir," "evangelical fundamentalism criticism," and "Religious Right political influence." These terms, integrated throughout the article, help contextualize Schaeffer's work within broader conversations about religion and politics.

Optimizing Content for Reach

To maximize SEO impact, the article strategically places the primary keyword "crazy for god frank schaeffer" in the opening paragraph and throughout the text. Additionally, secondary keywords appear in headers and supporting paragraphs to capture diverse search intents, from readers seeking book insights to those researching evangelical history.

Final Reflections on Frank Schaeffer's Legacy

Frank Schaeffer remains a complex figure whose life and work challenge simplistic narratives about faith, doubt, and ideological commitment. His memoir "Crazy for God" serves as both a personal catharsis and a social critique, inviting readers to reconsider the dynamics of evangelical culture and its broader societal effects. Whether viewed as a courageous exposé or a controversial denunciation, Schaeffer's voice continues to provoke thought and dialogue in the ongoing conversation about religion in America.

Crazy For God Frank Schaeffer

crazy for god frank schaeffer: Crazy for God Frank Schaeffer, 2008-09-30 By the time he was nineteen, Frank Schaeffer's parents, Francis and Edith Schaeffer, had achieved global fame as bestselling evangelical authors and speakers, and Frank had joined his father on the evangelical circuit. He would go on to speak before thousands in arenas around America, publish his own evangelical bestseller, and work with such figures as Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell, and Dr. James Dobson. But all the while Schaeffer felt increasingly alienated, precipitating a crisis of faith that would ultimately lead to his departure—even if it meant losing everything. With honesty, empathy, and humor, Schaeffer delivers “a brave and important book” (Andre Dubus III, author of House of Sand and Fog)—both a fascinating insider's look at the American evangelical movement and a deeply affecting personal odyssey of faith.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: Frank Schaeffer Will You Please Shut Up! Jay Rogers, 2015-06-27 The title of this book is a misnomer. It is not an attempt to get anyone to shut up, but rather to provoke a discussion. This book is intended to be a warning about the philosophy of Christian postmodernism. The reader will learn some basic principles that can be used to engage their arguments. Part 1 is a response to some of the recent writings by Frank Schaeffer, the son of the late Francis Schaeffer. This was originally written as a defense against Frank's attacks on pro-life street activism - a movement that his father helped bring into being through his books. Part 2 is a response to Colonel Doner and his book, Christian Jihad: Neo-Fundamentalists and the Polarization of America. There are thousands who have had their lives impacted in a powerful way by the elder Francis Schaeffer. As a new generation is emerging, it is important to recognize the mistakes that Christian activists have made in the past even while holding to a vision for the future.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: For the Healing of the Nations Peter Escalante, W. Bradford Littlejohn, 2014-11-04 The doctrine of creation is obviously one of the first things, but it is also one of the last things since the world to come is also, by definition, creation. The simple truth that it is so is incontestable since neither the world to come nor those whose dwelling it is built to be are God. But the way in which this is so is the subject of a long, long debate in Christendom, with the question of whether and in what degree the life to come is continuous with this one. How common is the “thing” in “first thing” and “last thing”? Our answer to this question conditions our answer to many others: the relationship of philosophy to theology, of the church to the saeculum, of the kingdom of Christ to the visible church. This volume brings together the careful investigations of established

and emerging historians and theologians, exploring how these questions have been addressed at different points in Christian history, and what they mean for us today. Includes contributions from James Bratt, E.J. Hutchinson, Matthew Tuininga, Andrew Fulford, Laurence O'Donnell, Benjamin Miller, Brian Auten, and Joseph Minich.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *Francis Schaeffer and the Shaping of Evangelical America* Barry Hankins, 2008-11-03 Francis Schaeffer (1912-1984) was probably the single greatest intellectual influence on young evangelicals of the 1960s and '70s. He was cultural critic, popular mentor, political activist, Christian apologist, founder of L'Abri, and the author of over twenty books and two important films. It is impossible to understand the intellectual world of contemporary evangelicalism apart from Francis Schaeffer. Barry Hankins has written a critical but appreciative biography that explains how Schaeffer was shaped by the contexts of his life -- from young fundamentalist pastor in America, to greatly admired mentor, to lecturer and activist who encouraged world-wary evangelicals to engage the culture around them. Drawing extensively from primary sources, including personal interviews, Hankins paints a picture of a complex, sometimes flawed, but ultimately prophetic figure in American evangelicalism and beyond.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *Apostles of Reason* Molly Worthen, 2014 In *Apostles of Reason*, Molly Worthen offers a sweeping history of modern American evangelicalism. Traditionally, evangelicalism has been seen as a cohesive - indeed almost monolithic - religious movement. Sometimes religion drops out of the picture and evangelicalism is treated strictly as a political force. Worthen argues that these views are false. Evangelicalism is, rather, a community of believers preoccupied by three elemental concerns: how to reconcile faith and reason; how to know Jesus; and how to bring faith to a secularized public square. In combination, under the pressures of modernity, and in the absence of a guiding authority capable of resolving uncertainties and disagreements, these debates have shaped evangelicals into a distinctive spiritual community.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *Serving Jesus with Integrity* Dwight P. Baker, Douglas Hayward, 2010-06-28 The word "ethics" carries an aura of countervailing views, overlapping claims, uncertain footing, and seductive attractions. Some issues are as clear as the horizontal versus vertical axes in Sawai Chinnawong's striking painting, *Joseph and Potiphar's Wife*, that graces the cover of this book. At the same time—because we are involved, because our interests, our inclinations, our plans and relationships are at stake—the issues that engage missionary practitioners can be frustratingly labyrinthine, curling endlessly back on themselves. Evangelical missionaries and mission agencies are concerned about personal morality—and rightly so. But as the chapters in this volume attest, evangelical mission's ethical engagement extends far beyond simply avoiding compromising sexual situations and not absconding with the finances. How should we talk about others' beliefs and practices to ourselves? To them? How should we represent ourselves to others? What role does tolerance for ambiguity play in missionaries' mental preparation? How should accountability be structured in intercultural partnerships? Are there ways to enable organizational justice to flourish in mission institutions? What might integrity in short-term mission outreach look like? How does care for creation relate to mission? What role can a code of ethics for missionary practice play? Limited and fallible and marred by the fall, we need both guidance and admonition—and deep reflection on the conduct of evangelical mission such as is provided in this volume—so that we may serve Jesus with true integrity.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *A Purple State of Mind* Craig Detweiler, 2008 Our culture has been reeling from divisiveness and strife. People have been divided politically (into red and blue states), morally, and spiritually. How can you reach across these rifts, mend fractured relationships, and share the healing love of God? You can become a purple Christian—a follower of Christ who finds middle ground, not to compromise but to converse. A purple Christian... embodies the love of God and avoids evangelistic clichés, encourages creativity and the arts as expressions of God's goodness, revels in love and joy but also faces disappointment and doubt honestly advocates for all people, not only the unborn but also those lacking education and health care or struggling with poverty, helps all people experience the benefits of Christ's reign instead of determining who is in and who is out.

Christians have become known for what they oppose rather than what they propose—faith, hope, and love. *A Purple State of Mind* dismantles unhelpful misrepresentations of Jesus' life-giving message and shows how you can live out the good news in a pluralistic world. Book jacket.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *Wrapped in the Flag* Claire Conner, 2013-07-02 A narrative history of the John Birch Society by a daughter of one of the infamous ultraconservative organization's founding fathers. Named a best nonfiction book of 2013 by Kirkus Reviews and the Tampa Bay Times Long before the rise of the Tea Party movement and the prominence of today's religious Right, the John Birch Society, first established in 1958, championed many of the same radical causes touted by ultraconservatives today, including campaigns against abortion rights, gay rights, gun control, labor unions, environmental protections, immigrant rights, social and welfare programs, the United Nations, and even water fluoridation. Worshipping its anti-Communist hero Joe McCarthy, the Birch Society is perhaps most notorious for its red-baiting and for accusing top politicians, including President Dwight Eisenhower, of being Communist sympathizers. It also labeled John F. Kennedy a traitor and actively worked to unseat him. The Birch Society boasted a number of notable members, including Fred Koch, father of Charles and David Koch, who are using their father's billions to bankroll fundamentalist and right-wing movements today. The daughter of one of the society's first members and a national spokesman about the society, Claire Conner grew up surrounded by dedicated Birchers and was expected to abide by and espouse Birch ideals. When her parents forced her to join the society at age thirteen, she became its youngest member of the society. From an even younger age though, Conner was pressed into service for the cause her father and mother gave their lives to: the nurturing and growth of the JBS. She was expected to bring home her textbooks for close examination (her mother found traces of Communist influence even in the Catholic school curriculum), to write letters against "socialized medicine" after school, to attend her father's fiery speeches against the United Nations, or babysit her siblings while her parents held meetings in the living room to recruit members to fight the war on Christmas or (potentially poisonous) water fluoridation. Conner was "on deck" to lend a hand when JBS notables visited, including founder Robert Welch, notorious Holocaust denier Revilo Oliver, and white supremacist Thomas Stockheimer. Even when she was old enough to quit in disgust over the actions of those men, Conner found herself sucked into campaigns against abortion rights and for ultraconservative presidential candidates like John Schmitz. It took momentous changes in her own life for Conner to finally free herself of the legacy of the John Birch Society in which she was raised. In *Wrapped in the Flag*, Claire Conner offers an intimate account of the society—based on JBS records and documents, on her parents' files and personal writing, on historical archives and contemporary accounts, and on firsthand knowledge—giving us an inside look at one of the most radical right-wing movements in US history and its lasting effects on our political discourse today.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *Sweet Surrender* Dennis Hiebert, 2013-07-09 Every culture has a way of perceiving and practicing marriage. Many contemporary Western Christians mistake what their culture prescribes regarding marriage with what the Bible portrays, and thereby take as biblical what is merely cultural. Uncritical conformity to cultural imperatives of marriage then becomes a Christian virtue, and a sweet surrender. Few recognize, much less question this confusion, even when its consequences are unhealthy. In *Sweet Surrender* Dennis Hiebert challenges Christians to comprehend what is cultural in their view of marriage, hold as optional what is not explicitly required by the Bible, and live out their marriages within the transcendent grace of God. Gaining greater awareness can free marriages from the control of culture for something more simply but deeply Christian. Marriages benefit when they are released from cultural directives that are not biblical callings, even if they choose to retain them as cultural practices. This book is for Christians who are ready to rethink their assumptions about marriage.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *Christ Across the Disciplines* Roger Lundin, 2013-10-03 In *Christ across the Disciplines* a group of distinguished scholars from across the theological spectrum explores the dynamic relationship between the Christian faith and the life of the mind. Although the essays in this volume are rooted in a rich understanding of the past, they focus primarily on how

Christian students, teachers, and scholars might best meet the challenges of intellectual and cultural life in a global world. This book ranges widely over the broad terrain of contemporary academic and cultural life, covering such topics as the enormous growth of political activism in late twentieth-century evangelicalism, the dynamics of literature and faith in the African-American experience, the dramatic implications of globalization for those who profess Christ and practice the life of the mind, and more!

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *The Spiritual Gift of Madness* Seth Farber, 2012-04-17 A bold call for the “insane” to reclaim their rightful role as prophets of spiritual and cultural transformation

- Explains how many of those diagnosed as schizophrenic, bipolar, and other forms of “madness” are not ill but experiencing a spiritual awakening
- Explores the rise of Mad Pride and the mental patients’ liberation movement
- Reveals how those seen as “mad” must embrace their spiritual gifts to help the coming global spiritual transition

Many of the great prophets of the past experienced madness--a breakdown followed by a breakthrough, spiritual death followed by rebirth. With the advent of modern psychiatry, the budding prophets of today are captured and transformed into chronic mental patients before they can flower into the visionaries and mystics they were intended to become. As we approach the tipping point between extinction and global spiritual awakening, there is a deep need for these prophets to embrace their spiritual gifts. To make this happen, we must learn to respect the sanctity of madness. We need to cultivate Mad Pride. Exploring the rise of Mad Pride and the mental patients’ liberation movement as well as building upon psychiatrist R. D. Laing’s revolutionary theories, Seth Farber, Ph.D., explains that diagnosing people as mad has more to do with social control than therapy. Many of those labeled as schizophrenic, bipolar, and other kinds of “mad” are not ill but simply experiencing different forms of spiritual awakening: they are seeing and feeling what is wrong with society and what needs to be done to change it. Farber shares his interviews with former schizophrenics who now lead successful and inspiring lives. He shows that it is impossible for society to change as long as the mad are suppressed because they are our catalysts of social change. By reclaiming their rightful role as prophets of spiritual and cultural revitalization, the mad--by seeding new visions for our future--can help humanity overcome the spiritual crisis that endangers our survival and lead us to a higher and long-awaited stage of spiritual development.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *Understanding Friendship* Gary Chartier, 2022-02-01 What is friendship? Is it ethically important? Does it exist outside ethics? Is it a potential distraction from the love of God or from moral responsibility? How might it nourish our spiritual lives? How should we make sense of the moral responsibilities we often take ourselves to have to our friends? Does friendship have anything to do with politics? *Understanding Friendship* answers these questions by painting a picture of friendship as a vibrant expression of Christian love that can enrich individual lives even as in various ways it can also prove socially, culturally, politically, and spiritually significant. Through a wide-ranging, erudite, yet accessible exploration of theological and philosophical traditions, *Understanding Friendship* examines what friendship is while showing how its distinctive moral status can be supported by multiple approaches to Christian ethics. *Understanding Friendship* ultimately reveals friendship's place in a fruitful understanding of Christian spirituality.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *The Obama Haters* John Wright, 2011 On November 4, 2008, the election of Barack Hussein Obama as the forty-fourth president of the United States showed that the country had finally overcome its most hurtful, shameful, and enduring legacy slavery. Though Obama's election showed progress, the John McCain Sarah Palin campaign and the Republican Party used age-old smear campaign tactics. Their operators pulled out all the stops in an attempt to win and spread falsehoods about Obama that have only multiplied after the election. *The Obama Haters* seeks to answer the following questions: Who are these Obama haters? Why do they despise him? Why do various news organizations, commentators, and political entities treat the same facts differently? Why are these pundits so powerful? In order to do so, Wright first lays out the democratic principles and civility toward which Americans should strive. Next, he investigates the

persistent expressions of hatred for President Obama, connecting historic antecedents of political mudslinging along with the background of virulent right-wing smear tactics over the past two decades. And finally, he shines a harsh spotlight on the haters and fearmongers and their tactics. While Americans have the right to criticize their political leadership, their reasons for disapproval should be based on facts. Those who invent and repeat lies to hurt the reputation of leaders weaken the democratic ideal. This book is for anyone who wishes to learn how to cut through the hypocrisy and propaganda to make informed decisions based on truth.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *Hijacking History* Kathleen Wellman, 2021 *Hijacking History* analyzes the high school world history textbooks produced by the three most influential publishers of Christian educational materials and their collective effect on students' understanding of the past and its consequences for the present. In assuming that God sanctions fundamentalist positions on social, political, and economic issues, students are led to believe that that the ultimate mission of America is to advance evangelical Christianity and capitalism throughout the world, with monumental civic ramifications.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *A Terrifying Grace* Rob Yule, 2017-04-28 Romance and sexual intimacy are among life's highest joys. How we handle our sexuality is an ultimate challenge, particularly in today's sexualised global culture. Rob Yule looks at a fascinating selection of romantic relationships from throughout Christian history, from Augustine, Abelard and Heloise, and the Luthers to Billy and Ruth Graham and Pope Saint John Paul II. Illustrating how challenging and far-from-straightforward the relationship of men and women is in real life, he draws many insights for relationships and marriage today. *A Terrifying Grace* explores the romantic relationships of leading Christians throughout history and how they handled sex and marriage. What were their relationships and marriages like? What did they believe or teach about sexuality and marriage? Did their marriages or celibate lives live up to their professed beliefs? How did they handle the joys, pains, temptations, and responsibilities of their intimate relationships, alongside their public life and witness? Even great Christians have struggled to handle their intimate relationships. We can learn much from them how to live with integrity in today's hypersexualised culture.

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *The Evangelicals* Frances FitzGerald, 2017-04-04 Initially a populist rebellion against the established Protestant churches, evangelicalism became the dominant religious force in the country before the Civil War, but the northerners and southerners split over the issue of slavery. After the Civil War, the northern evangelicals split, eventually causing a conflict between fundamentalists and modernists. Only after the Second World War would conservative evangelicalism gain momentum, thanks in large part to Billy Graham's countrywide revivals. FitzGerald shows how the conflict between religious conservatives and others led to national culture wars and a Southern Republican stronghold, and how a new generation of evangelicals is challenging the Christian right by preaching social justice and the common good. FitzGerald suggests that because evangelicals are splintering, America, the most religious of developed nations, will eventually look more like secular Europe. --

crazy for god frank schaeffer: *A War for the Soul of America* Andrew Hartman, 2019-04-26 The "unrivaled" history of America's divided politics, now in a fully updated edition that examines the rise of Trump—and what comes next (New Republic). When it was published in 2015, Andrew Hartman's history of the culture wars was widely praised for its compelling and even-handed account of how they came to define American politics at the close of the twentieth century. But it also garnered attention for Hartman's declaration that the culture wars were over—and that the left had won. In the wake of Trump's rise, driven by an aggressive fanning of those culture war flames, Hartman has brought *A War for the Soul of America* fully up to date, detailing the ways in which Trump's success, while undeniable, represents the last gasp of culture war politics—and how the reaction he has elicited can show us early signs of the very different politics to come. "As a guide to the late twentieth-century culture wars, Hartman is unrivalled . . . Incisive portraits of individual players in the culture wars dramas . . . Reading Hartman sometimes feels like debriefing with friends after a raucous night out, an experience punctuated by laughter, head-scratching, and

moments of regret for the excesses involved.” —New Republic

crazy for god frank schaeffer: Reformed Resurgence Brad Vermurlen, 2020 One of the biggest movements in American Christianity, especially among younger evangelicals, is a groundswell of interest in the Reformed tradition. In *Reformed Resurgence*, Brad Vermurlen provides a comprehensive sociological account of this New Calvinist phenomenon--and what it entails for the broader evangelical landscape in the United States.

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