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Wyatt North Publishing is proud to bring you a collection of concise biographies of Catholic and Orthodox Saints. You can collect them all! Saint Clare of Assisi: A Concise Biography comes complete with a Touch-or-Click Table of Contents, divided by each section, and the Christian Image Collection, a myriad of beautiful colorful religious images. Clare was born in Assisi, Italy as the eldest daughter of Favorino Scifi, Count of Sasso-Rosso and his wife Ortolana. Ortolana was a very devout woman who had undertaken pilgrimages

to Rome, Santiago de Compostela and the Holy Land. Later on in her life, Ortolana entered Clare's monastery, together with Agnes, Clare's sister. Clare was always devoted to prayer as a child. When she turned 15 her parents wanted her to marry a young and wealthy man but she originally wanted to wait until she was 18. But when she was 18 she had heard Francis's preachings. Those preachings were beginning to change her life. He told her she was a chosen soul from God. Soon on Palm Sunday when people went to grab their palm branches she stayed. On that very night she ran away to go follow Francis. When she got there he cut her hair and dressed her in a black tunic and a thick black veil. Clare was put in the Benedictine nuns near Bastia and was almost pulled by her father for originally he wanted her to marry at age of 15. Clare and her sister Agnes soon moved to the church of San Damiano, which Francis himself had rebuilt. Other women joined them there, and San Damiano became known for its radically austere lifestyle. The women were at first known as the "Poor Ladies". San Damiano became the focal point for Clare's new religious order, which was known in her lifetime as the "Order of San Damiano." San Damiano was long thought to be the first house of this order, however, recent scholarship strongly suggests that San Damiano actually joined an existing network of women's religious houses organized by Hugolino (who later became Pope Gregory IX). Hugolino wanted San Damiano as part of the order he founded because of the prestige of Clare's monastery. San Damiano emerged as the most important house in the order, and Clare became its undisputed leader. By 1263, just ten years after Clare's death, the order became known as the Order of Saint Clare. You can buy other wonderful religious books from Wyatt North Publishing! A compelling biography of Francis for readers of any faith and none. A paperback version of this bestseller. Excerpt from

Saint Francis of Assisi: A Biography And thus I take leave of this work which has so long been the centre of my labor and research. To write about St. Francis of Assisi should have been his own affair, for what does he himself say in the *Speculum perfectionis*? The Emperor Charlemagne, Roland, Holger, and all the other Knights Of the Round Table fought the heathen unto death and won the victory over them, and at the end became them selves holy martyrs and died in the battle for the faith Of Christ. But now there are many who, by simply telling Of their actions, hope to win honor and fame from mankind. Also there are now many who, by simply preaching on what the saints have done, wish to win honor and fame. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works. *The Complete Writings of St. Francis Assisi* is the only book on the market to include the original writings of St. Francis, his own work, *The Little Flowers of St. Francis* and a extensive biography of the life and achievements of St. Francis. St. Francis was an extraordinary writer and poet whose writings are sure to move the young and seasoned writer on topics such as life, love, the environment, animals all while keeping a close walk with your creator. However interesting and important the stories by his contemporaries are, there is no better place to discover the most profound inspiration of Saint Francis of Assisi than in his own

writings. These prayers, poems, proverbs, rules and letters are a goldmine for those who wish to delve into his thoroughly biblical spirituality. He reveals himself in them as being someone who was permanently touched and marked by his encounter with Christ. In brief: the seeker of God who considered his fellow-creatures as his brothers and sisters; someone who even these days still exerts an unequalled magnetism due to his radical following of Christ. However this does not mean that his biblically inspired radiance does not need to be translated to the challenges of modern life. This is because the eight centuries separating us from him form a wide chasm. In a small way, this book endeavours to contribute to the actualisation of Francis' charisma: a freely chosen life-style characterised by having no possessions as well as by courageous service and courteous respect to others. What can his biblical 'art of living' signify for the modern individual who jealously guards his or her freedom in a world marked by excessive planning and omnipresent technology, and who at the same time is usually not quite sure for whom or for what he or she is actually free? *On the Road with Francis of Assisi* offers a unique and lively travelogue of parallel journeys: that of Francis of Assisi on his way to sainthood in the thirteenth century, and that of author Linda Bird Francke, who followed his path through the beauty of central and coastal Italy—and even on to Egypt. Francke tells the compelling story of Saint Francis through the many places he visited. She and her husband, Harvey Loomis, used as their guidebooks medieval texts, including the first official biography of the saint, completed in 1229, just three years after he died. Theirs was not a spiritual journey but one based on admiration for a man whose legend continues to inspire and fascinate millions around the world. From Assisi—a small Umbrian town that now draws two million visitors a year, making it second only to Rome

as an Italian pilgrimage destination—Saint Francis crisscrossed Italy for twenty years. And so too does the author travel through the “green heart” of Italy to such hill towns and cities as Siena, Bologna, Venice, Gubbio, and Rome, and to the many mountaintop Franciscan sanctuaries from La Verna and Le Celle di Cortona in Tuscany to the Rieti Valley. Along the way, Francke movingly depicts the many miracles Francis performed and draws us into the splendid beauty of the landscape that inspired the saint’s love for nature and regard for all living things. Unlike Francis, however, whose asceticism caused him to add ashes to his food to deaden its earthly pleasure, Francke and her husband indulge in the fabled Umbrian cuisine, from wild boar to the region’s famed black truffles, and the incomparable local wines. On the Road with Francis of Assisi embraces the spirit and person of its legendary subject, and invites the reader to marvel at his spiritual intensity and follow in his footsteps through the timeless beauty of Italy. St. Francis’s call is a call to return to the basics of Christianity. It is a call to Christians to reach back to their roots so that their spiritual lives can draw strength from the pure waters of the Gospel instead of being choked by manmade traditions and worldly concerns. In the words of G. K. Chesterton, the coming of Francis “marked the moment when men could be reconciled not only to God but to nature and, most difficult of all, to themselves. ... his whole function [was] to tell men to start afresh and, in that sense, to tell them to forget” (124). While St. Francis of Assisi is one of the most beloved saints in history, the relevancy of St. Francis for our times in light of the election of Pope Francis has yet to be explored. This book is written with the intention of filling that gap. While it is biographical in nature, it also freely explores themes that relate to St. Francis but are not a part of his life. This book is about more than the life of St. Francis of Assisi; it is about the impact this beloved

saint has had through his imitation of Christ, his love of poverty, the Franciscan movement, and his profound influence on Pope Francis. Acclaimed biographer Donald Spoto strips away the legends from the life of Francis of Assisi to reveal the true story of a man who has too often been obscured by pious iconography. Drawing on unprecedented access to unexplored archives, plus Francis's own letters, Spoto places Francis within the context of the multifaceted ecclesiastical, political, and social forces of medieval Italy, casting new light on Francis and showing how his emphasis on charity as the heart of the Gospel's message helped him pioneer a new social movement. This nuanced portrait reveals the multifaceted character of a man who can genuinely be said to have changed the course of history. Though many books have been written about Saint Francis of Assisi, none have put him in such a human light as this novel. Francis of Assisi, while taking a few liberties along the way, tells the story of Saint Francis's journey through darkness and war and into the light. Readers learn about the struggles Saint Francis must overcome, and about his trials with his father and with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Through certain fictitious accounts of the historical character, readers are granted the chance to see Saint Francis as a brother and friend—as a fellow human being, more sinner than saint. As readers, we travel the journey with him as he battles popes, bishops, and cardinals to carve out an order of his own that is based on simplicity and on serving God through giving to the poor. Contoveros provides for us a Saint Francis who is entirely tangible but inspirational on a spiritual level. From the very beginning, we are fighting for the patron saint of animals and small critters. We are there to experience the vision of "Lady Poverty" alongside him, and by the novel's end, we understand him and his vision more fully. In Ik vond hem in Assisi beschrijft Ian Morgan Cron een pelgrimstocht van

voorganger Chase. Chase zit middenin een geloofscrisis als hij besluit naar zijn oom in Toscane, een Franciscaner monnik, af te reizen. Het wordt een spirituele reis en een hernieuwde kennismaking met Franciscus van Assisi. Het pure, eenvoudige geloof en navolging van Jezus zorgen voor een omwenteling in Chase's denken. Ian Morgan Cron nodigt in *Ik vond hem in Assisi* de lezer uit op bedevaart: door de geschiedenis, door twijfel, via de binnenwegen van Italië tot onwaarschijnlijk heilige grond. This collection of folk tales, legends, and narratives about the life of Francis of Assisi and his followers appeared about seventy-five years after the saint's death, in the early fourteenth century. The writings have remained popular ever since due to their beauty and charm, and because they are the nearest thing to a biography of Francis that exists. They are the source of many of the most famous stories about Francis—including the accounts of his preaching to the birds and of his receiving of the stigmata—and they are based on stories that circulated about him in the years after his death. Robert Hopcke and Paul Schwartz provide the first truly new translation of the Fioretti in forty years, and in doing so they bring the spiritual classic up to date, using contemporary language to show Francis to be a living, breathing human being who walked the streets of Assisi in a state of spiritual, physical, and social enlightenment, through his own existence making Christ real in the world. The translators have also edited the work to present the stories that most powerfully present Francis's spirit and teaching. A biography which brings out his quality of holiness against the background of his weaknesses, the defects of his character and his deep-rooted superstition. Meet the man behind the myths. This book takes you beyond the nature-lover of popular myth to the real St. Francis of Assisi, model of holiness and Christian courage. You'll learn the full story behind the famous

incidents in Francis's life, including his hugging the leper and his sermon to the birds. St. Francis of Assisi is a superb model for each of us today: an ordinary man who by God's grace was able to do extraordinary things. "Il Poverello, 'the little poor man,' as St. Francis of Assisi was called, walked the dusty ways of everyday life and yet transformed the climate of the thirteenth century with his message of God's love for each creature. This new biography, by drawing on original sources and avoiding pietistic myths, sketches a vibrant portrait of Francis as he was, full of joy and simplicity, sometimes disillusioned and blundering, but always touched by a divine charisma"--from front jacket flap. G.K. Chesterton lends his witty, astute and sardonic prose to the much loved figure of Saint Francis of Assisi. Grounding the man behind the myth he states "however wild and romantic his gyrations might appear to many, [Francis] always hung on to reason by one invisible and indestructible hair.... The great saint was sane.... He was not a mere eccentric because he was always turning towards the center and heart of the maze; he took the queerest and most zigzag shortcuts through the wood, but he was always going home." A 2002 review in the Franciscan wrote that "his opinions shine from every page. The reader is rewarded with many fresh perspectives on Francis." A definitive biography of St. Francis which can scarcely be surpassed. Among the most beloved saints in the Catholic tradition, Francis of Assisi (c. 1181-1226) is popularly remembered for his dedication to poverty, his love of animals and nature, and his desire to follow perfectly the teachings and example of Christ. During his lifetime and after his death, followers collected, for their own purposes, numerous stories, anecdotes, and reports about Francis. As a result, the man himself and his own concerns became lost in legend. In this authoritative and engaging new biography, Augustine Thompson,

O.P., sifts through the surviving evidence for the life of Francis using modern historical methods. The result is a complex yet sympathetic portrait of the man and the saint. Francis emerges from this account as very much a typical thirteenth-century Italian layman, but one who, when faced with unexpected crises in his personal life, made decisions so radical that they challenge his own society-and ours. Unlike the saint of legend, this Francis never had a unique divine inspiration to provide him with rules for following the teachings of Jesus. Rather, he spent his life reacting to unexpected challenges, before which he often found himself unprepared and uncertain. The Francis who emerges here is both more complex and more conflicted than that of older biographies. His famed devotion to poverty is found to be more nuanced than expected, perhaps not even his principal spiritual concern. Thompson revisits events small and large in Francis's life, including his troubled relations with his father, his contacts with Clare of Assisi, his encounter with the Muslim sultan, and his receiving the Stigmata, to uncover the man behind the legends and popular images. A tour de force of historical research and biographical writing, Francis of Assisi: A New Biography is divided into two complementary parts-a stand alone biographical narrative and a close, annotated examination of the historical sources about Francis. Taken together, the narrative and the survey of the sources provide a much-needed fresh perspective on this iconic figure. "As I have worked on this biography," Thompson writes, "my respect for Francis and his vision has increased, and I hope that this book will speak to modern people, believers and unbelievers alike, and that the Francis I have come to know will have something to say to them today." This book examines one aspect of the life and thought of Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan monastic order. Contemporary interest in Francis has focused on his attitude toward

nature. Sorrell argues persuasively that Francis' ideas can only be properly understood in their thirteenth-century context. Through close analysis of Francis' writings, Sorrell shows that many of Francis' beliefs concerning the proper relation of man to the natural world have their antecedents in scripture and in the medieval monastic tradition. Other Franciscan ideas and practices, however, appear entirely original; his nature mysticism, his concept of familial relationships with created things, his extension of Christian almsgiving to creatures. Sorrell insists, however, that only by seeing Francis in terms of the Western traditions in which he arose can we appreciate the true originality of this extraordinary figure, and the relevance of his thought to modern environmental concerns. The Founder is the second volume of the long-awaited and best-selling project Francis of Assisi: Early Documents. All three volumes contain helpful introductions to each section, colored maps, cross references, and extensive annotation. The Founder contains: The Beginning or the Founding of the Order and the Deeds of those Lesser Brothers who were the First Companions of Blessed Francis in Religion The Legend of the Three Companions The Assisi Compilation The Remembrance of the Desire of A Soul by Thomas of Celano The Treatise on the Miracles of Saint Francis by Thomas of Celano An Umbrian Choir Legend A Letter on the Passing of Saint Francis Attributed to Elias of Assisi The Legends and Sermons about Saint Francis by Bonaventure of Bagnoregio Related Documents Tells of the life and history of a thirteenth century Italian Catholic friar turned Saint. Exploring Franciscan spirituality, particularly as it touches the lives of laypeople today, this book outlines key elements of Francis' own spirituality and their relevance to modern laypeople--conversion, surrender, rebuilding the Church, poverty, devotion to the gospel, peace, reverence for creation, joy and prayer.

In this classic work, Brazilian theologian Leonardo Boff examines the relevance of St. Francis to contemporary spirituality and to the construction of a new church. Eschewing sentimental images of the Poverello, Boff's Francis embodies "the preferential option for the poor." As a "model of gentleness and care," Francis exemplifies an "integral liberation" in which the spiritual and the social are never separate, but intimately bound together. In his new preface Boff observes: "Through his deep humanity Francis of Assisi has become an archetype of the human ideal. He belongs not only to Christianity but to all humankind." In this new biography of St. Francis, Cunningham follows the saint's life in chronological order, placing him within his culture, exploring official developments within the Catholic Church, and highlighting the many conversions of Francis as his life played out. An international bestseller, "The Secret of Francis of Assisi" is a moving and poetic meditation on the life of the saint and the power of humility. The penetrating piece on the life of Saint Francis gently but sure-handedly cuts through every pious legend to uncover what is timeless and universally true about him. This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1912 edition. Excerpt: ... it in indirect form. Finally, it is cited twice in the Three Brothers' Legend.¹ Sabatier thinks that Francis wrote his Testament several times, and bases this conclusion on Cap. 87 of the Speculum perfectionis, where the sick saint has Brother Benedict of Prato called to him and "in three words" imparts his last will to him and to all the Brethren.² He also left to St. Clara and the Sisters of her Order testamentary notes.¹ II--BIOGRAPHERS The list of the biographers of St. Francis, whom it is permissible to take as original sources, begins shortly after his death with Thomas of Celano and

ends about the year 1400 with works of compilation such as Bartholomew of Pisa's *Conformitates* (1385) and the anonymous *Speculum vitae S. Francisci et sociorum ejus* (about 1445). I divide these biographers into four successive groups, each with its own definite chronological limits and also with its express character, and I will designate the following groups, named after the most prominent of the authors or books: i. Thomas Of Celano Group 1. Thomas of Celano Group (about 1230). 2. Brother Leo Group (about 1245). 3. St. Bonaventure Group (about 1265). 4. *Speculum* Group (later than about 1320).⁴ 1 As an example I give this single comparison: Celano, *Vita prima*, I, 7: *sicut ipse in testamento suo loquitur, dicens: Quia cum essem in peccatis, nimis amarum mihi videbatur videre leprosos, et Dominus conduxit me inter illos, et feci misericordiam cum illis. Testament: quia, cum essem in peccatis, nimis mihi videbatur amarum videre leprosos; et ipse Dominus conduxit me inter illos, et feci misericordiam cum illis. (Quaracchi ed., p. 76.) See also Cel., V. pr., I, 15-Test. (Q. ed.) p. 79; I, 7 = PP. 77"78; Cel., V. sec., Ill, 00 = pp. 78-79; Julian of Speier... Delio illustrates how Clare, through her life, her writings, letters, prayer, and example, is truly a mystic who helped generations of Catholics clearly see how Christ took on human flesh, not just to suffer and die for them, but to help them reflect back the face of Christ to the world. (Catholic) Tells the story of the man who became one of the most famous saints in the world, from his fun-loving youth through his career as a soldier to the years he spent serving God. William Hugo has ministered in initial formation since 1980 and taught the life of Francis of Assisi for over twenty-six years to Capuchins at various levels of formation and to Secular Franciscans. He was editor of "The New Round Table, " a journal of Capuchin spirituality and history, for seven years and is currently the Provincial Director of Initial Formation and Director of*

Postulants for the Midwest Capuchins. Telling the story of the life of the universally acclaimed saint, St Francis of Assisi, this book explores the daily lives of Francis and Clare and the lives of thirteenth-century Assisi. St. Francis of Assisi is one of the best-known and best-loved of all the saints. This classic work puts the him in the context of his historical setting and his spiritual influences. Inspired by a deep and simple love, Francis abandoned his fortune and chose to live simply. His love for Jesus Christ, his love for animals, and his love for nature continue to inspire many to this day. This version has been redesigned for a modern audience who wish to continue to connect to this simple man of Assisi. How did we come to revere this thirteenth-century Italian merchant's son as a saint? This penetrating meditation provides what may be the best answer yet, by gently but sure-handedly cutting through every pious legend to discover what is timeless and universally true about Saint Francis.

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