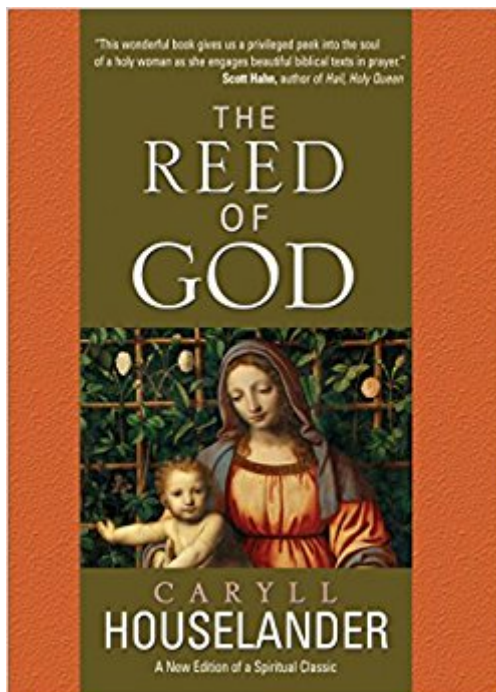


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The Reed Of God



Synopsis

First published over half a century ago, Caryll Houselander's *The Reed of God* is a spiritual classic that deserves to be rediscovered by a whole new generation of readers. Houselander's beautiful and profound meditation depicts the intimately human side of Mary, Mother of God, as an empty reed waiting for God's music to be played through her. She shares her insightful and beautiful vision of Mary on earth, Mary among us, Mary as a confused but trusting teenager whose holiness flowered with her eternal "Yes."

Book Information

Paperback: 187 pages

Publisher: Christian Classics; Revised edition (October 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0870612409

ISBN-13: 978-0870612404

Product Dimensions: 4.9 x 0.5 x 6.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 650 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #104,130 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism > Mariology](#) #111 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Biographies > Saints](#) #303 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Worship & Devotion > Meditations](#)

Customer Reviews

"This wonderful book gives us a privileged peek into the soul of a holy woman as she engages beautiful biblical texts in prayer. In ways witty and winsome, Houselander teaches us to unite our will with God's will, as the Blessed Virgin Mary did." --Scott Hahn, author of *Hail, Holy Queen*

Caryll Houselander (1901-1954) was a lay English artist who became one of the most popular Catholic spiritual writers of modern times. She shared a unique and mystical vision of Christianity and Catholic teachings through her writing. In 1944, *The Reed of God*, a collection of profound and lyrical essays about Mary, established Houselander as a respected modern spiritual writer in the tradition of Julian of Norwich, Catherine of Siena and Teresa of Avila.

** UPDATE: Since purchasing this particular set of Colore Pencils I have also purchased other sets and there has been a great amount of questions regarding the difference between the Premium Set

and other sets. Please see the bottom of my review for a comparison. There is in fact a difference between sets and this set, by far is the most superior to all other sets from Colore. I purchased Colore Colored pencils because colored pencils are one of my favorite mediums for both traditional art and also for coloring in any kind of coloring book, be it adult or an old school kids book and I am forever on the hunt for the best, most cost effective pencil I can find. The Colore Colored Pencils 72 Premium Pre-Sharpened Color Set arrives in a metal tin that is shrink wrapped in plastic. Upon opening the tin you find 3 plastic trays stacked on top of each other within the tin. The tray itself is made of a thin black plastic that has a slot for each individual pencil, which is great for storing but also helps prevent them from moving around the tin itself. This set does have 72 individually colored pencils, some are just a shade darker or lighter than the next and some are significantly different in color or hue. The pencils are made of what appears to be quality wood and have a black paint on the exterior of the round barrel that has an almost soft feel to it. The end of the pencils each are dipped in paint to represent the color of the pencil and is fairly accurate. There are no numbers or names of the colors of these pencils and they are arranged by hues from light to dark in each color spectrum. I did find however that one or two were in weird positions such as a darker pink was near the purples and not with the other pinks and reds. There is a wide variety of colors here, Yellows, Purple and Grays have the least amount of individual colors, with an average of about 3 different colored pencils each, while the blues and greens have the largest amount or variety of hues. There's a nice range of Reds, Pinks, Orange and Browns. There are several hues that I found are really good for skin tones. The lead itself is a soft core lead, I found them to lay down quite well and layer or blend just as well. I found the hues are vibrant and rich as well as creamy. I have colored on a variety of paper and find that paper with a light tooth or texture gives the overall richest colors but they are also great on smooth paper. While the core is soft the lead itself is actually quite durable, I had no problems at all with tips breaking off or chipping. The pencils sharpened great with the M+R sharpeners that I use, the wood was still smooth after sharpening and the tips quite sharp. When compared to other brands I own, such as Marco Raffiene and Prisma Color Premiere, as well as many other brands, I find that the Colore Colored Pencils are better in my opinion than the Marc Raffiene and almost on par with the Prisma. While not as soft as the Prisma they are most definitely softer than the Marco Raffiene brand of pencils and doesn't have that waxy feel to it. If you are looking for a quality set of pencils that aren't going to break and chip and are creamy with a great blend then I highly suggest the Colore Colored Pencil brand.

UPDATE COMPARISON OF COLORE' BRAND PENCILS: Since purchasing this particular set I have also purchased the Colore' Brand Premium Art Set (huge fan of Colore'), 72 Count Boxed set Premium, 60 Count Dictionary Set and

the 60 Piece Set with eraser and sharpener in a clear plastic clam shell type container. For those wondering what the difference between the pencils are, or if there is a difference, I can assure you there most certainly is. This set, 72 Count Premium Tin Set is the most superior set of all of their products. The core of the pencils is a bit thicker than other sets, the colors are a bit more vivid, but most importantly the texture is more creamy and layers as well as blends the best overall. Additionally the tin that it comes in is fairly heavy weight when compared to other tin products, making it fantastic for storage. With respect to the other products I would say that I found the 60 piece set with eraser and sharpener (no longer listed) would be next in line to degree of quality, they are not as soft as the tin set, are not labeled with any particular name (Premium, Artist Quality etc.), are not numbered and the barrels are simply lacquered. These are still quality pencils. The next best set would be boxed sets, be it 72 count or the Dictionary, these are a bit harder, can tend to break off a bit more easily and do not layer as well but are significantly superior to Marco Raffine in my opinion. These sets are labeled with color numbers. There are colors in this set that are not in the 72 count tin set by a few shades difference. The last set, which is very limited in colored pencils is their 50 piece Art Set which contains colored pencils, water color pencils, drawing and graphite pencils. The quality of the actual colored pencils are quite poor. They do not lay down well, feel quite waxy and do not layer well at all. So in summary, of all of the colored pencils Colore' Manufactures I can say that the 72 count Premium Tin set is the most superior and highly suggest this set. While there is a small price difference between this set and the boxed sets, it is worth every penny and you will not be disappointed with them. Lastly, if you are a PrismaColor fan, I really suggest this set as a compliment as there are a few colors or shades in this set that you don't find in the comparable 72 count set or if you can't afford PrismaColor brand, Colore' Colored Pencils are the next best option.

I'm definitely no artist - I can barely draw a stick figure, if I'm honest. However, I absolutely love coloring, and always have (even before it became trendy!); I REALLY prefer colored pencils when coloring (I really don't care for crayons unless I'm working with children, and markers are obnoxious, messy, and bleed through a majority of paper far too easily), but find that many of the commercially available pencils (ie, the common brands found at places like Wal-Mart) aren't that great...even when I'm just casually coloring for myself, I want to have pencils that are *at least* decent - but I also don't want to be paying a premium price for art supplies when I'm just "messing around". Enter this GORGEOUS set of pencils with the widest array of colors I've seen for the best price! First off, I love the variety colors available in the box - 72 gorgeous, vivid colors in a super nice tin box (love);

the colors that come out on the page are also relatively true to that of the pencil itself - I mean...as much as is humanly possible, at least. In addition, these pencils are SUPER smooth - I had no idea writing/coloring with a pencil could be so smooth, really...like butter! They're also comfortable to hold, no issues there. All in all, I am really loving these pens, and definitely recommend them to anyone of any age looking for a pleasant coloring experience - the price is completely fantastic - *especially* when you think about the quality you're getting. I will note, however, that I wouldn't say that I, personally, would think these are considered "hardcore" *literal* artist pencils by many that are more on the professional end of the art world (like...artists who get paid for their work)...but they're definitely of super high quality for the 98% of us!

I LOVE these pencils. I almost bought another set today as they had a 60 pack on a lightening deal (I paid full price) but I also have a set of 132 Prismacolors, so I am going to wait. In comparison with Prismacolors, these are almost just as great. I also have a set of Marco Raffine, which I gave away after receiving these. I like that I can sharpen these much easier and get a better tip than I can with the Prisma. The colors are beautiful, lay down extremely well, and blending is a breeze. They are creamy and smooth. I have had no issues with broken lead or tips. I have two wants for these pencils, color names, and please more colors would be great, it would probably keep me from having to purchase Prisma in the future. The price is unbeatable for the quality of the pencils. I will definitely purchase again! Thank you for a quality product and a very affordable price!!

I purchased the 72 piece set of colored pencils from Colore and I love them! At first I totally thought it would be dumb to have so many colors, but after I purchased another product with a smaller amount (48) I realized I needed more colors! I just started coloring in an adult coloring book at night while I'm watching TV so I have something to do. It is so fun! I am a slightly better color-er than I was when I was little, but I don't even care, it is super relaxing! There are a TON of fun colors in this set and they come already sharpened so you can get to work right away! Believe me 72 different colors isn't too many and I have used almost all of them! The tin they come in has 3 plastic trays that set on top of each other and each of the pencils has it's own little slot so they don't roll around all over and it is easy to keep them organized. I really love this set and it is well worth the price! I will be buying another set for my daughter for Christmas so I will stop having to share! Thanks for reading!

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