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The Angels in Religion and Art

Review Author: John A. Pollock, S.J.

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Yet, while *Starting Points* definitely speaks of contemporary concerns in relevant language, the bulk of the collection leaves this reader, somehow, unmoved.

TERESA COLAYCO

THE ANGELS IN RELIGION AND ART. By Valentine Long, O.F.M. Chicago, Illinois: Franciscan Herald Press, 1970. vii, 214 pp.

This is a very refreshing review of the Roman Catholic traditional belief in and devotion to the angels. It is not argumentative, not polemical, just takes for granted that we believe in angels, and not only that, but are devoted to them, strictly in accord with Catholic traditions. The whole attitude of the book is thus refreshing in these days of doubt and disbelief in even fundamental doctrines.

Angels? Of course there are! The author recites in chapter after chapter the acceptance, especially by educated people, not only of belief but of love and respect for these messengers of God. He quotes the Scriptures, Old and New Testaments, literature, painting, sculpture, music, Catholic and Protestant testimony, even unbelievers' "unseen powers" which we would explain as good angels or fallen angels! Fr. Long's researches have been most thorough. There is not a library or museum or cathedral he has not visited in his search for evidence of the wide belief in these angelic messengers.

Our author is not arguing, is not polemical, simply leaves no room for doubt in his lyrical devotion to the heavenly messengers. His enthusiasm might incline a reader to think it might be just that and nothing more, without foundation. But besides the Scriptures, he cites solid evidence, such witnesses as Newman, Dr. Aleis Carrel, St. Joan of Arc.

This little volume will serve to refresh souls weary with the doubts and fears of our modern hates and anxieties. It is a cheerful enthusiastic review of angelic lore with a solid foundation. Highly recommended for its simplicity and for its enthusiastic, refreshing tone: easy to read, a labor of love!

JOHN A. POLLOCK, S.J.

A DOCUMENTARY CHRONICLE OF SINO-WESTERN RELATIONS (1644-1820), Part I and II. By Lo-shu Fu. Tucson, Arizona: The University of Arizona Press, 1966. xviii, 792 pp.

Lo-shu Fu, an expatriate Chinese historian, has in this work compiled, annotated, and translated or edited in English important parts of