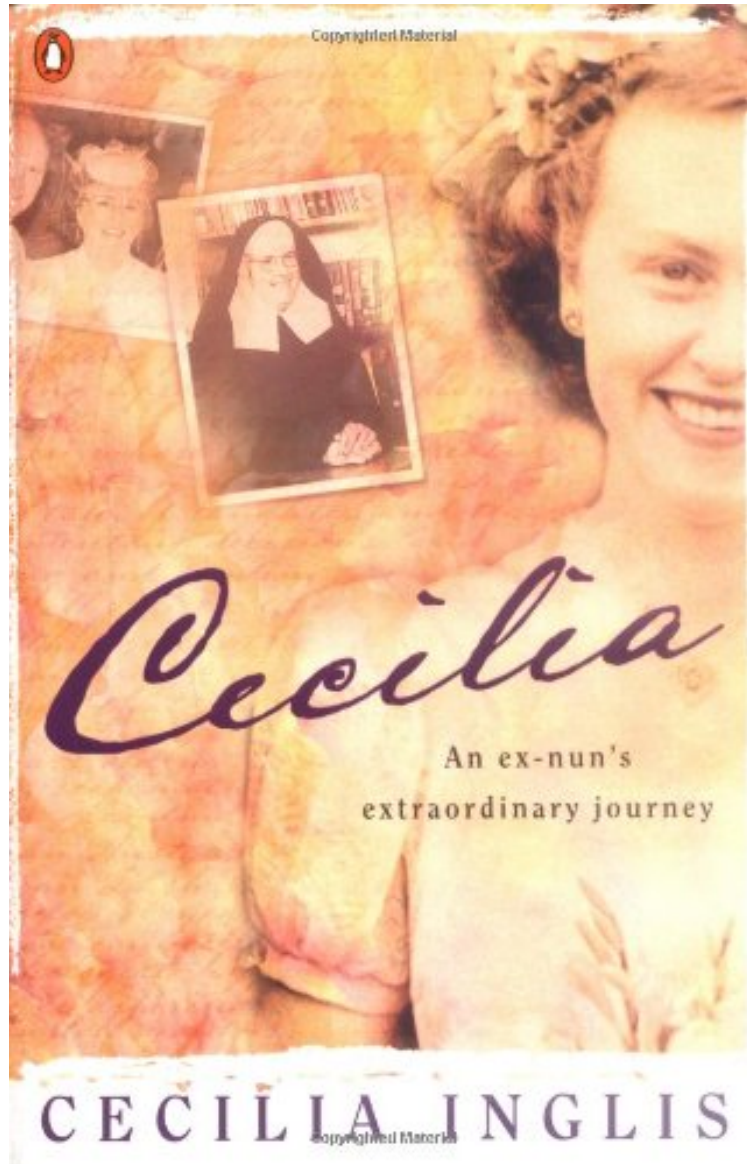


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Cecilia: Bride of Christ Beyond

Cecilia Inglis

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Cecilia Inglis : Cecilia: Bride of Christ Beyond before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cecilia: Bride of Christ Beyond:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A VOLUME OF FORGOTTEN LOREBy Thomas Patrick HullI found CECILIA: AN EX-NUN'S EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY in a Chicago used-bookstore. Cecilia Inglis of Australia shares a remembrance of her life within the ever-expanding genre of nun stories. On seeing the title and the cover I was reminded of a very popular autobiography, a best-seller in the fifties, THE DELIVERANCE OF SISTER

CECILIA. "Enjoyable" is one way to describe this more recent story, though it was published a decade ago. The point of view in the telling is mostly first person singular and first person plural. "I thought this..." and "We wandered there..." are the kind of sentences one finds in attempting to journey with the rather interesting and gifted woman, of unique generosity. While the tale could have been full of interrogatives and passion, it settles into a vanilla by mid-point and never seems to recover. In my opinion, this is a story worth telling, and worth reading. If there is a problem, it is with the editor, not the author. If the original copy had been presented to a good, caring editor it had potential to become more. It lacks passion, even in verbiage. If some high points in the remembrance had been built up, while more minor details were eliminated, the reader might be more encouraged to feel something, especially empathy or compassion. If the author, or more precisely the editor, had been more artful, this question would emerge, "What do I want the reader to take away from knowing this event?" In Sherwood Anderson's novel/collection of short stories entitled WINESBERG, OHIO he introduces the idea of the "grotesque" -- a life adventure from which a person either grows or withers. It is that kind of artistic device that is needed to enhance this story. It could be so much more than a bit of forgotten lore found in the dark of the back of a used-bookstore. This woman's story is worth retelling. THOMAS PATRICK HULL, CHICAGO

This is a highly original absorbing story of one woman's courageous quest to find happiness fulfilment after thirty years as a Catholic nun. Cecilia is the inspiring life story of a woman from an Irish Catholic background who decided to become a nun at the age of seventeen joined the Sisters Of Mercy in NSW during the early 1950s. Tired disillusioned at 47, Cecilia chose to renounce her vows.