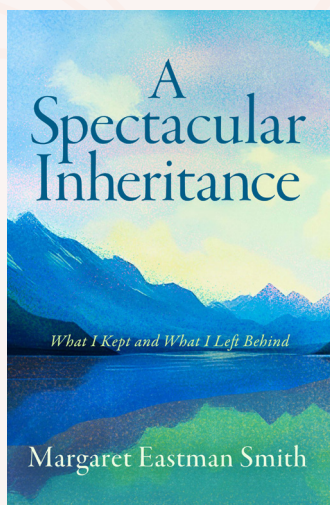


A Spectacular Inheritance: What I Kept and What I Left Behind



**A Spectacular
Inheritance: What I Kept
and What I Left Behind**
BY MARGARET EASTMAN
SMITH

MEMOIR

AMAZON.CO.UK RELEASE:
September 24, 2026

TRADE PAPER:
Pages: 424
9798897400201 | £16.35

EBOOK:
9798897400218 | £7.47

Growing up in an international community determined to remake the world...

When Margaret Eastman Smith left her close community on the eve of her thirty-fifth birthday, she had few friends beyond it, no college degree, no job experience, and little aptitude for dealing with the world outside.

A Spectacular Inheritance is a penetrating account of coming of age in Moral Re-Armament (previously the Oxford Group, now Initiatives of Change). The religiously-based reconciliation organization spawned Alcoholics Anonymous and Up With People. The movement is credited with contributing to postwar Franco-German reconciliation but has also been criticized by some, including actor Glenn Close.

Margaret shares vivid memories of life within the community and her evolving view of it. As she steps away, it becomes a story of finding values that she can rely on. In her telling, the memoir is a reflection on the search for self, forgiveness and the meaning of love.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Margaret Eastman Smith taught in the Program on International Peace and Conflict Resolution at American University, Washington, DC, from 1999-2017. She is the author of *Reckoning with the Past: Teaching History in Northern Ireland* (Lexington Books, 2005). She earned her doctorate from the Fletcher School at Tufts University in 1999. In 2018 she earned a degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. She splits her time between Cape Cod and Washington DC.

You can read more about the book and see family photos at:
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