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Encounters With God: In Quest of Ancient Icons of Mary

By Beckett, Sister Wendy.

Orbis. 1 Cloth(s), 2009. hard. Book Condition: New. In this illustrated exploration of the sacred image, art historian Sister Wendy Beckett travels from England to Rome, from Ukraine to a monastery in Sinai, to view the earliest icons of Mary. These are among the few such works that survived the wholesale destruction of icons in the early eighth century, and in contrast with the familiar and magnificent icons of later history, the early examples have a haunting simplicity and unexpected spiritual power: "They are drawing us out of our worldly reality into their world, the true world," relates Beckett in her characteristically poetic language, "summoning us to leave behind all that is earthly and to breathe an air more pure than we can understand." 132.



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