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# The Road to Daybreak: A Spiritual Journey

By Henri Nouwen



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## The Road to Daybreak: A Spiritual Journey By Henri Nouwen

When Henri Nouwen left the world of academe and headed for the village of Trosly in France, he sought a place that would lead him "closer to the heart of God." Arriving at L'Arche community in Trosly, he felt as if he had finally "come home." Indeed, it was destined to change his life forever.

*The Road to Daybreak* is Henri Nouwen's intimate diary that records his poignant year at L'Arche, which began in the summer of 1985, a precious time of inner renewal and self-discovery. With simplicity and honesty, he describes how the experience changed his attitudes and enriched his spiritual life. Here Nouwen recounts the struggles and self-doubts he faced along this rocky road to a new vocation as he introduces us to the people of L'Arche and many others whose impact on him was deep and life-lasting. Such was the impact of this experience that he chose to say yes to the call to go to L'Arche Daybreak Community in Toronto and make it his permanent home and ministry.

Rich in insights and sparkling with touching and inspiring anecdotes, *The Road to Daybreak* invites the reader to join this renowned spiritual writer on his journey to a deeper understanding of God and the human family.



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## The Road to Daybreak: A Spiritual Journey By Henri Nouwen Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

From School Library Journal

YA-- Nouwen's journal is, on one level, a profile of the selfless dedication of the men and women who care for the physically and mentally handicapped within the international L'Arche communities. Also, it recounts one man's struggle for personal and spiritual growth. In a time when what we have and what we do are all important, it is arresting to read of someone--noted, respected, and positioned--who would give up much of that for a spiritual calling. Nouwen, no holy man on the mountain, is a person struggling with what he realizes are self-absorbed concerns and fears. Students will identify with his returning concern for the loss or slights of friends. A Roman Catholic priest, he projects a spirituality which is not watered-down psychology, but reflective and worshipful. This may be read in collections in which the works of Catherine Marshall are being read.

*Carolyn Praytor Boyd, Episcopal High School, Bellaire, Tex.*

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From Library Journal

In Lifesigns ( LJ 9/1/86) Nouwen reflected on the vision underlying Jean Vanier's L'Arche communities for the mentally handicapped. Here he returns to the intimate journal format of Gracias ( LJ 7/83) to share his journey from the intellectual milieu of the Harvard Divinity School to his new call to be priest at Daybreak, Toronto's L'Arche home. "How does one follow Jesus unreservedly?" Struggling to answer this question, Nouwen shares his own vulnerability in transparently honest ways that will both nurture and challenge readers to move "closer to the heart of God" in their own lives. EC

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From the Publisher

Henri Nouwen's intimate, inspiring diary of his first year in the L'Arche community called Daybreak, where he now makes his home and practices his ministry.

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Charles Tebo:**

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**Teresa Vanhook:**

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