



Eyes of the Heart: Seeking A Path For the Poor in the Age of Globalization

By Jean-Bertrand Aristide



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In this startling and passionate book, Aristide demonstrates why those on the bottom will never lie down. A graphic revelation of what happens when "free" trade overruns local markets, eradicates local economies, and creates dependence on foreign charity.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Aristide, the former priest-turned-president of one of the poorest nations in the Western Hemisphere, calls these nine brief chapters a letter written for "my brothers and sisters in Haiti who cannot write." An attempt to explain to readers that the world's richest countries are "accumulating wealth with breathtaking speed and never looking back," while the poor nations are "sinking deeper into economic misery." He views every topic he addresses through the stark lens of the poorest Haitians. Although his hope-filled vision can offer them nothing more than "poverty with dignity," he believes it may at least prevent starvation. Aristide's writing is simple and direct; he capably juggles heartrending anecdotes, unnerving statistics, unflinching commentary and the occasional Bible quote. The result reads at times like a hard-hitting sermon and at times like a campaign speech, resonating with the conviction of one who knows firsthand the desperation about which he writes. Passion overcomes stridency as Aristide insists that "women, children and the poor must be the subjects, not the objects, of history. They must sit at the decision-making tables and fill the halls of power." This courageous critique of the global economy and how it is leaving the poor behind is important and accessible, sure to touch all but the hardest of hearts. Photos. (Apr.)

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From [Booklist](#)

Aristide's 1994 restoration as Haiti's president (he had been ousted by a 1991 military coup) was hailed as a victory for third-world democracy. The former Catholic priest subsequently incensed first-world interests, however, by resisting their economic advice. Earlier free-market schemes only impoverished and even starved Haiti's huge peasantry, and Aristide pegged future cooperation with economic globalization to guarantees for free public education, national health care, and secure nonservice employment. Reviled as a Marxist, Aristide proves merely a Christian in this inspiring little book: he cares more for the poor than for free-traders' profits. No longer president, he has little hope that his policies will be realized soon; instead, he encourages self-supporting development for Haiti's poor, based upon religious faith and a much more egalitarian democracy that would include even children's and especially women's participation. His goal is the re-establishment of "decent poverty," which was, not so coincidentally, exactly what social critic Paul Goodman saw being rubbed out in the U.S. after World War II. *Ray Olson*

Review

A beautiful book--a Third World manifesto written in the spirit of the gospels--by one of the morally transcendent leaders of our times. This book, written with wrath and sorrow, modesty and love, will take its place among the classics of social justice in our times. -- *Jonathan Kozol, Author of Amazing Grace*

If you have never been to Haiti, you must read this book. The Eyes of Your Heart will see what you have never seen before: the one place on this planet where the vision proclaimed by Jesus in the Beatitudes is happening.

If you have been to Haiti, you must read this book. You will find your amazing experience there made real again through the anecdotes and analysis President Aristide uses to describe the reality of Haiti today. -- *Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Chris Bynum:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have much more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity with regard to spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a stroll, shopping, or went to typically the Mall. How about open as well as read a book titled Eyes of the Heart: Seeking A Path For the Poor in the Age of Globalization? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You already know beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can cleverer than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have various other opinion?

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Louise Guest:

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