

# Losing My Religion How I Lost Faith Reporting On In America And Found Unexpected Peace

## William Lobdell

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### Losing My Religion Losing My Religion

How do you know when you need to believe again? If you have ever gone through burnout in your spiritual life or disappointment in your church experience, then it may be evident. For others, it is not so clear. You continue to push forward despite the check engine light warning you something is wrong beneath the surface. In *Believe Again*, Josh uses his real-life fish out of water story to demonstrate how you can leave behind exhausting religion and find refreshing faith. Josh's entire life was wrapped up in his job, relationships, and involvement at his church. But what happens when all of that is stripped away, and he enters the "real world" for the first time as an adult? Instead of preaching on stage and enjoying the trappings of being a successful ministry leader, he found himself delivering pizza, attending church with homeless people under a bridge, and wrestling with the realities of life outside of his church bubble. And that is just the beginning of this intentional yet unconventional journey to discover a new way to relate to God, church, and those who do not believe as we do.

Whether you are like Josh and unaware of how much you need to make a change, or you are already looking for something new, *Believe Again's* raw and sometimes hilarious story will inspire you to overcome life's setbacks and rejuvenate your faith.

The Man in the High Castle Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing

Racy, unpredictable, romantic, and inspiring, this is a novel that is bound to get you addicted and stay with you forever. When gamer and entrepreneur Rishi Rai sets out to revolutionize the gaming industry, something somewhere goes terribly wrong and, like dominoes, the blocks of his life fall down one after the other. An unexpected meeting with Alex, an unpredictable, crazy American hippie, changes his life forever, as he decides to quit everything and join him on an unplanned, uncharted journey across India. From getting irrepressibly high in the mysterious Malana Valley in the Himalayas to starting a shack on the bewitching Om Beach on the West Coast, they do it all. But their adrenaline-charged adventure takes a turn when Rishi meets Kyra, a beautiful and enigmatic gamer. As passions surge and sparks fly, Rishi gets drawn to Kyra . . . unaware of who she is and where she comes from. What follows next is something nobody could have ever dreamed of . . . Who is Kyra and why are the paparazzi after her? Can Rishi connect the dots in his life to protect the love of his life? While the world becomes a spectator, can he mastermind the fall of a ruthless giant to become a global icon or will he become the biggest loser?

### I Am Restored Zondervan

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER New York Times bestselling author and acclaimed linguist John McWhorter argues that an illiberal neoracism, disguised as antiracism, is hurting Black communities and weakening the American social fabric. Americans of good will on both the left and the right are secretly

asking themselves the same question: how has the conversation on race in America gone so crazy? We're told to read books and listen to music by people of color but that wearing certain clothes is "appropriation." We hear that being white automatically gives you privilege and that being Black makes you a victim. We want to speak up but fear we'll be seen as unwoke, or worse, labeled a racist. According to John McWhorter, the problem is that a well-meaning but pernicious form of antiracism has become, not a progressive ideology, but a religion—and one that's illogical, unreachable, and unintentionally neoracist. In *Woke Racism*, McWhorter reveals the workings of this new religion, from the original sin of "white privilege" and the weaponization of cancel culture to ban heretics, to the evangelical fervor of the "woke mob." He shows how this religion that claims to "dismantle racist structures" is actually harming his fellow Black Americans by infantilizing Black people, setting Black students up for failure, and passing policies that disproportionately damage Black communities. The new religion might be called "antiracism," but it features a racial essentialism that's barely distinguishable from racist arguments of the past. Fortunately for Black America, and for all of us, it's not too late to push back against woke racism. McWhorter shares scripts and encouragement with those trying to deprogram friends and family. And most importantly, he offers a roadmap to justice that actually will help, not hurt, Black America.

### Losing Your Religion, Finding Your Faith

Paulist Press

"Losing My Religion" is the story of Jackson Alley, a coyote in an all-male R.E.M. cover band trying his hardest not to grow up. Tours, he feels, are for playing music and taking full advantage of the openness of his marriage, and having a gay wingman usually helped the bisexual coyote get girls. But his wingman is dating their lead singer now, so Jackson's left with the new bassist, an ex-Mormon kit fox named Zeb who might be gay, but knows as little about sex as he does about drinking. So Jackson's going to have to show him the ropes, and hopefully he won't have to learn any pesky life lessons along the way.

### Out of Position Harper Collins

When the challenges you've faced threaten to destroy your life, how do you find your way back to the truths you thought you believed? *I Am Restored* tells the untold story of how Lecrae's past nearly ruined his future--until he learned that the wounds we carry can have the potential to be unlikely guides to healing and freedom for ourselves and others. Throughout *I Am Restored*, Lecrae documents the shattering yet hopeful story of how he faced the scars of his

past--sexual abuse, physical trauma, addiction, and depression--and emerged more fully human than ever before. With remarkable transparency and vulnerability, Lecrae reveals that at the height of his professional success, his life was spinning out of control, driven by a past that he had never confronted and a religious perspective that was incapable of meeting the challenge. *I Am Restored* takes an unflinching look at the personal and public spaces that are too often at the societal core of our pain and heartache--culture, politics, family, church, and more--and teaches us that forgiveness can be the birthplace of the life that God has created for us. Throughout this powerful, deeply personal account, Lecrae shares the life lessons he's learned about: Confronting the pain and trauma that has shaped your story Breaking the cycle of sin and shame and embracing joy and authenticity Finding hope and healing in the midst of chaos The simple practices that can change your mental, emotional, and spiritual health Leading a life that's bursting with creativity and true freedom *I Am Restored* is a hopeful, inspiring charge to start your journey to lasting healing today. No matter what your past has held, God is near you, he hears you, and he's not done writing your story.

[Losing Our Religion](#) Open Road + Grove/Atlantic

In this challenging and provocative book, Tom Frame, one of Australia's best-known writers on religion and society, examines diminishing theological belief and declining denominational affiliation. He argues that Australia has never been a very religious nation but that few Australians have deliberately rejected belief - most simply can't see why they need to be bothered with religion at all. He contends that vehement campaigning against theistic belief is the product of growing disdain for religious fundamentalism and a vigorous commitment to personal autonomy. *Losing My Religion* contends that God is certainly not dead but that Australia's religious landscape will continue to change as the battle for hearts, minds and spirits continues. Published on the sesquicentennial of the first release of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* (1859), this book will provoke debate about what matters to Australians.

*Losing Our Religion* ReadHowYouWant.com

"The press has become a tool of oppression--politicized, self-aware, self-motivated, and power-hungry. . . . In short, these people can no longer be trusted." --From S. E. Cupp's *Losing Our Religion* It's time to wake up and smel the bias. The go-to commentator for such programs as Fox News's *Hannity* and CNN's *Larry King Live* and *Reliable Sources*, S. E. Cupp is just that--a reliable source for the latest news, trends, and forecasts in young, bright, conservative America. Savvy and outspoken when shattering left-leaning assumptions as she did in *Why You're Wrong About the Right*, Cupp now takes on the most pressing threat to the values and beliefs held and practiced by the majority of Americans: the marginalizing of Christianity by the flagrantly biased liberal media. From her galvanizing introduction, you know where S. E. Cupp stands: She's an atheist. A non-believer. Which makes her the perfect impartial reporter from the trenches of a culture war dividing America and eroding the Judeo-Christian values on which this country was founded. Starting at the top, she exposes the unwitting courtship of President Obama and the liberal press, which consistently

misreports or downplays Obama's clear discomfort with, or blatant disregard for, religious America--from covering up religious imagery in the backdrop of his Georgetown University speech to his absence from events surrounding the National Day of Prayer, to identifying America in his inaugural address as, among other things, "a nation of non-believers." She likens the calculated attacks of the liberal media to a class war, a revolution with a singular purpose: to overthrow God and silence Christian America for good. And she sends out an urgent call for all Americans to push back the leftist propaganda blitz striking on the Internet, radio, television, in films, publishing, and print journalism--or invite the tyrannies of a "mainstream" media set on mocking our beliefs, controlling our decisions, and extinguishing our freedoms. Now, discover the truth behind the war against Christmas--and how political correctness keeps the faithful under wraps . . . the one-sided analyses of Prop 8 and the gay marriage debate . . . the media pot-shots at Sarah Palin's personal faith . . . the politicization of entertainment mainstays such as *American Idol* and the *Miss USA Pageant* . . . and much more. Also included are her penetrating interviews with Dinesh D'Souza, Martha Zoller, James T. Harris, Newt Gingrich, Kevin Madden, and Kevin Williamson of *National Review*, delivering must-read analyses of the latest stunning lowlights from the liberal media.

*Leaving the Witness* Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

The *New York Times* - bestselling author's Whitbread Prize-winning debut-- "Winterson has mastered both comedy and tragedy in this rich little novel" (*The Washington Post Book World*). When it first appeared, Jeanette Winterson's extraordinary debut novel received unanimous international praise, including the prestigious Whitbread Prize for best first fiction. Winterson went on to fulfill that promise, producing some of the most dazzling fiction and nonfiction of the past decade, including her celebrated memoir *Why Be Happy When You Can Be Normal?*. Now required reading in contemporary literature, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* is a funny, poignant exploration of a young girl's adolescence. Jeanette is a bright and rebellious orphan who is adopted into an evangelical household in the dour, industrial North of England and finds herself embroidering grim religious mottoes and shaking her little tambourine for Jesus. But as this budding missionary comes of age, and comes to terms with her unorthodox sexuality, the peculiar balance of her God-fearing household dissolves. Jeanette's insistence on listening to truths of her own heart and mind--and on reporting them with wit and passion--makes for an unforgettable chronicle of an eccentric, moving passage into adulthood. "If Flannery O'Connor and Rita Mae Brown had collaborated on the coming-out story of a young British girl in the 1960s, maybe they would have approached the quirky and subtle hilarity of Jeanette Winterson's autobiographical first novel. . . . Winterson's voice, with its idiosyncratic wit and sensitivity, is one you've never heard before." --*Ms. Magazine*

*The Religion of Thinness* NYU Press

"The fastest growing religion in America is--none! Among adults under 30, those poised to be the parents of the next generation, fully one third are religiously unaffiliated. Yet these "Nones," especially parents, still face prejudice in a culture where religion is widely seen as good for your kids. What do Nones believe, and how do they negotiate tensions with those convinced that they ought to provide their children with a religious upbringing?"--Publisher description.

[Losing Our Religion](#) Knopf

Explores what leads people to begin to question their faith. Lynch recounts his own experience of the processes and the challenges he encountered in moving away from Evangelical faith. Includes interviews with Dave Tomlinson and Jo Ind. *Anatomy of a Song* Wipf and Stock Publishers

With so many women approaching their diets, body image, and pursuit of a slender figure with slavish devotion, The Religion of Thinness is a timely addition to the discussion of our cultural obsession with weight loss. At the heart of this obsession is the belief that in order to be happy, one must be slim, and the attendant myths, rituals, images, and moral codes can leave some women with severe emotional damage. Idealized images in the media inspire devotees of this "religion" to experience guilt for behaviors that are biologically normal and necessary, and Lelwica offers two ways to combat this dangerous cultural message. Advising readers to look hard at the societal cues that cause them to obsess about their weight, and to remain mindful about their actions and needs, this book will not only help stop the cycle of guilt and shame associated with food, it will help readers to grow and accept their bodies as they are. Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit P & R Publishing

"A winning look at the stories behind 45 pop, punk, folk, soul and country classics" in the words of Mick Jagger, Stevie Wonder, Cyndi Lauper and more (The Washington Post). Every great song has a fascinating backstory. And here, writer and music historian Marc Myers brings to life five decades of music through oral histories of forty-five era-defining hits woven from interviews with the artists who created them, including such legendary tunes as the Isley Brothers' "Shout," Led Zeppelin's "Whole Lotta Love," Janis Joplin's "Mercedes Benz," and R.E.M.'s "Losing My Religion." After receiving his discharge from the army in 1968, John Fogerty did a handstand—and reworked Beethoven's Fifth Symphony to come up with "Proud Mary." Joni Mitchell remembers living in a cave on Crete with the mean old daddy who inspired her 1971 hit "Carey." Elvis Costello talks about writing "The Angels Wanna Wear My Red Shoes" in ten minutes on the train to Liverpool. And Mick Jagger, Jimmy Page, Rod Stewart, the Clash, Jimmy Cliff, Roger Waters, Stevie Wonder, Keith Richards, Cyndi Lauper, and many other leading artists reveal the emotions, inspirations, and techniques behind their influential works. *Anatomy of a Song* is a love letter to the songs that have defined generations of listeners and "a rich history of both the music industry and the baby boomer era" (Los Angeles Times Book Review).

*Losing My Religion* Univ of California Press

We all own a very special key. It is the key that unlocks all that we are and all that we could ever want and dream of wanting. Access to this key is so simple, yet we make it so hard. This key is always there, waiting for us to use it to unlock our treasure chest and to release the power within it. We all want so badly to be the winner of the big lottery, but little do we know we already are the winner. We think winning the lottery will give us the power to do what we want with our lives. If we only knew that all the power is already within us. They say that in the last days the hearts of many men will fail because of fear. Our hearts fail every time we make a decision based in fear, instead of believing to trust what is in our hearts. Our heart is each and everyone's very own treasure chest that is open every time we choose to believe what is in it. Now if the key to all our happiness is in our treasure chest, which lies within our heart, wouldn't it make sense that our number one priority in life would be to discover our heart and what lies within it? Every time we make a decision aligned with our heart, we tap into our power and release a potent and invisible energy into the world. This energy in turn orchestrates the universe to reflect back into our lives that ultimately leads us to fulfill our

purpose. We must believe that all of life's experiences, situations, and relationships are there to take us on a great journey. A journey that creates opportunities for self-discovery and that promotes self-growth and awareness. One experience of life is death. However, it is not death in the physical sense, but in a spiritual sense. It is dying to who we thought we were and dying to what we thought we believed and to how we defined ourselves. A lot of what we thought really isn't even our own thoughts. They are actually thoughts we adopted from others. They are thoughts and beliefs imposed on us by others, beginning right down to when we were babies. In this process of self-discovery, we must cut off the junk we gathered in life that are not our own in order to become in alignment to who we are. God is the very essence of life—the life within us and the life outside us. As we continue the path of self-discovery, happiness is sure to follow. The compass that should aid us in our journey is called bliss. Following our bliss is the key to what is in your heart and ultimately to be one with God. The key to our fulfillment in life is not to create separation between who God is and who we are. We are one with God. We are cocreators with God, and we have the power to create whatever we want.

*Losing My Religion* Gurze Books

If the control freaks don't like you, they may as well accuse you of being political in your church. This is what the Maverick Pastor faced as a pastor chosen by his tiny congregation in a church organization that was never democratic with its selection of leaders. Moving on is your next best option, no matter how much it hurts. The journey that followed could never have been predicted. He lost his former church, and found a new one. Forgiveness and healing was only part of the transformation to come next. He was losing his religion, and finding a whole new meaning in his walk before God as a Christian. So much of what he believed in and trusted would be shaken. He would never look at Church or Jesus the same way again. No doubt many in the broader body of Christ (the Christian Church) have experienced similar. By telling this story, the Maverick Pastor provides a platform by which others can make sense of their own changes in thinking. *Losing My Religion* Darton Longman & Todd Limited Simultaneously published in St. Louis, Missouri by Chalice Press, 2015.

The Evangelical's Daughter Pneuma Springs Publishing After four years of college and six years in seminary, William Mills was ready for a parish—or so he thought. He didn't realize much of his time would be endless discussions about bagels and coffee, digging ditches, and parking lot condom patrols. For six years, community life was just humming along. Then disaster struck. Mills' life came crashing down when nearly a third of his congregation left in a public power play, causing him to question his faith in himself, in the church, and in God. Marva Dawn, a noted writer of spirituality and ministry, said that being a pastor is like being peppered with popcorn: after a while, you just get tired of it, pack your bags, and move on. However, as Mills himself says, "I was either too stubborn or stupid, so I stayed." *Losing My Religion* is about the ups and downs, ins and outs, choices and challenges of being a pastor in the twenty-first-century church. It's also about the redemptive power of community life and finding healing and wholeness in a broken world.

*Losing Our Religion* Xlibris Corporation

A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF THE YEAR • NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER • From the indie

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rockstar of Japanese Breakfast fame, one of TIME's Most Influential People of 2022, and author of the viral 2018 New Yorker essay that shares the title of this book, an unflinching, powerful memoir about growing up Korean American, losing her mother, and forging her own identity. In this exquisite story of family, food, grief, and endurance, Michelle Zauner proves herself far more than a dazzling singer, songwriter, and guitarist. With humor and heart, she tells of growing up one of the few Asian American kids at her school in Eugene, Oregon; of struggling with her mother's particular, high expectations of her; of a painful adolescence; of treasured months spent in her grandmother's tiny apartment in Seoul, where she and her mother would bond, late at night, over heaping plates of food. As she grew up, moving to the East Coast for college, finding work in the restaurant industry, and performing gigs with her fledgling band--and meeting the man who would become her husband--her Koreanness began to feel ever more distant, even as she found the life she wanted to live. It was her mother's diagnosis of terminal cancer, when Michelle was twenty-five, that forced a reckoning with her identity and brought her to reclaim the gifts of taste, language, and history her mother had given her. Vivacious and plainspoken, lyrical and honest, Zauner's voice is as radiantly alive on the page as it is onstage. Rich with intimate anecdotes that will resonate widely, and complete with family photos, *Crying in H Mart* is a book to cherish, share, and reread.

changes, and why some churches have shown greater resilience. It then explores some of the particular challenges these changes pose for the future of churches in these societies and some of the responses that have been made, drawing on both sociological and theological insights. The conclusion is that, despite the loss of belonging, believing persists and religion continues to play a significant role in these societies, mediated in a variety of diffuse cultural forms. Cases illustrating these changes are largely drawn from New Zealand, which as the country most recently settled by Europeans has always been "secular" and thus provides helpful insights.

*Post-Traumatic Church Syndrome* Oxford University Press, USA

In this book Professor Lang gives a very personal account of his search for God when he found out that his inherited religious beliefs could no longer answer his questions. A chance encounter led him to Islam. But now, how does he adapt to his new community, its beliefs and lifestyle?

*Religion's Sudden Decline Down & Out Books*

This book arises from twenty five years of study and a passion to see God's people grasp the extent and significance of the Kingdom of God and to apply it in their own lives. This message is not an addendum to the gospel but is in fact the gospel. Christianity is not a religion to be followed but is about seeing the rule of God extended to the earth in every aspect of life: 'Let Your kingdom come; let Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven'. It is not about adopting a philosophy but about renewing the world through the transformation of lives, beliefs, values and behaviours. This renewal extends to all poverty, injustice and the effects of the Fall in the social, political and economic environment of the World. As we grasp this we will see the gospel as the means through which the healing of our lives becomes the basis for the healing of the nations. Richard Bradbury is based in Beverley in East Yorkshire and leads Beverley Community Church, part of the Groundlevel Network of churches. Married with four children, his prime gifting is as a teacher to the Body of Christ.

*Losing My Religion* NYU Press

Church-going in most Western societies has declined significantly in the wake of the social and cultural changes that began in the 1960s. Does this mean that people in these societies are losing any religious dimension in their lives, or is it being expressed in other forms and places? This study begins by looking at comparative data on how church-going patterns have changed in five countries--Britain, the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand--examining reasons for the decline, how churches have responded to these