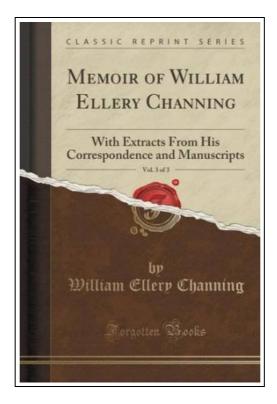
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Reviews

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Forgotten Books, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from Memoir of William Ellery Channing, Vol. 3 of 3: With Extracts From His Correspondence and Manuscripts I fear I understand it too well, that is, I am too prone to shrink from the work. Reform is resistance of rooted cor ruptions and evils, and my tendency is to turn away from the contemplation of evils. My mind seeks the good, the perfect, the beautiful. It is a degree of torture to bring vividly to my apprehension what man is suffering from his own crimes and from the wrongs and cruelty of his brother. NO perfection of art, expended on purely tragic and horrible subjects, can reconcile me to them. It is only from a sense of duty that I read a narrative of guilt or woe in the papers. When the darkness, indeed, is lighted up by moral great ness or beauty, I can endure and even enjoy it. You see I am made of but poor material for a reformer. But on this very account the work is good for me. I need it, not, as many do, to give me excitement, for I find enough, perhaps too much, to excite me in the common experience of life, in meditation, in abstract truth; but to save me from a refined selfishness, to give me force, disinterestedness, true dignity and elevation, to link me by a new faith to God, by a deeper love to my race, and to make me a blessing to the world. I know not how far I have explained my shrinking from the work of reform, but, be the cause what it may, let us not turn away from us the cross, but willingly, gratefully, accept...

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