

(Free) The Book of Kells: An Illustrated Introduction to the Manuscript in Trinity College, Dublin (Second Edition)

## The Book of Kells: An Illustrated Introduction to the Manuscript in Trinity College, Dublin (Second Edition)

*Bernard Meehan*

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**Bernard Meehan : The Book of Kells: An Illustrated Introduction to the Manuscript in Trinity College, Dublin (Second Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Book of Kells: An Illustrated Introduction to the Manuscript in Trinity College, Dublin (Second Edition):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Medieval manuscript art at its peakBy Matt NAlong with the Lindisfarne Gospel, this ranks as perhaps the most beautiful piece of medieval era writing and artistry ever found. While not a page by page reproduction, the full-page, full-color portraits show the Book of Kells at it's finest. The illumination, range of colors, intricate designs and carefully woven religious symbolism bring the dark ages back to life as you turn the pages. Some pages exhibit almost impossible levels of detail for the time in which they were written, though I think they would be a worthy challenge for even modern tools and expert calligraphers to reproduce.

In short, well worth the price and a fascinating piece of history. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good illustrations; Good history and descriptions; easily understood. By North Woods Homie This used book was in excellent condition; although there was an inscription in the front cover (which actually lent a charming personalization to the book) showing it had been given as a gift. The illustrations and descriptions are very good; the history is very well written - concise and easy to understand. Because we had the book, we skipped the long time to be spent at Trinity College and devoted our one day in Dublin to other attractions--The National Gallery, Archaeological Museum, (admission to museums and the National Gallery is free) Temple Bar, the old jail, etc. Others in our group who did go to see The Book of Kells did not have the history of it and did not fully understand or appreciate what they were seeing. Therefore, if you are going to Dublin and wish to see The Book of Kells, I would suggest reading this book first to comprehend what it is all about. Our next visit to Dublin will include a visit to Trinity College to view The Book of Kells. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good resource for Book of Kells. By SallySue Plenty of information and wonderful photographs of the Book of Kells. Good resource for anyone wanting to know more or teaching about the Book of Kells.

"Beautiful by far the best modern short account of one of the great monuments of early Irish civilization required reading for anyone interested in the subject." The Irish Times The Book of Kells is a masterpiece of medieval art a brilliantly decorated version of the four Gospels with full-page depictions of Christ, the Virgin and the Evangelists as well as a wealth of smaller decorative painting. The strange imagination displayed in the pages, the impeccable technique and the very fine state of preservation make The Book of Kells an object of endless fascination. This edition reproduces the most important of the fully decorated pages plus a series of enlargements showing the almost unbelievable minuteness of the detail; spiral and interlaced patterns, human and animal ornamenta combination of high seriousness and humor. The text is by Bernard Meehan, the Keeper of Manuscripts at Trinity College, Dublin. 110 color illustrations

From Library Journal This is essentially a scholarly introduction to the Book of Kells, the ancient illuminated manuscript of the gospels housed at Trinity College in Dublin. The text is laced with 117 mostly color photographs of the book's beautifully illustrated pages. For religious and art collections. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist For the fiscally conservative library, this fine, small book is an ideal substitute for the recent \$18,000 facsimile of Ireland's renowned Book of Kells, the most famous of all illuminated medieval Gospels. This representation might not include all 680 illuminated pages, but it does offer 110 color illustrations, including dozens of enlargements, that permit the reader to ponder the excruciatingly complex ornamentation which makes the Book a masterpiece of Celtic interlacing. Meehan, keeper of manuscripts at Trinity College Dublin, which has housed the Book since the seventeenth century, provides erudite but direct commentary about the Book's background, its motifs and themes, and even the material from which it is constructed. Patricia Monaghan From the Back Cover The Book of Kells is the most spectacular of a group of manuscripts created in Ireland and northern Britain between the seventh and tenth centuries, a period when Irish monasticism was in the vanguard of Christian culture. Its earliest history remains controversial but it was in the keeping of the monastery of Kells, Co. Meath, for most of the Middle Ages - hence its name - and has been in the library of Trinity College Dublin, since the mid-seventeenth century. It is a masterpiece of medieval art - a brilliantly decorated copy of the four Gospels with full-page illustrations of Christ, the Virgin and Child and the Evangelists, and a wealth of smaller decorative painting that does not always relate to the sacred text. The strange imagination displayed in the pages, the impeccable technique and the very fine state of its preservation make it an object of endless fascination. This edition includes the most important of the fully decorated pages plus a series of enlargements showing the almost unbelievable minuteness of the detail - spiral and interlace patterns, human and animal ornament - a combination of high seriousness and humor. Accompanying the illustrations is a new, up-to-date text by Bernard Meehan, the current Keeper of Manuscripts at Trinity College Dublin. It provides a scholarly analysis of these exuberant inventions, the artists, the text and the writing, and a full account of the historical background to the miraculous world of the Book of Kells.