



Undergoing God: Dispatches from the Scene of a Break-in

By James Alison

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What do Rowan Williams, Stanley Hauerwas, Rene Girard, Richard Rohr, Timothy Radcliffe, Monica Furlong, Richard Rohr, Andrew Sullivan, and Mark Jordan have in common beside their Christian faith? Answer: the fact that they have all heaped praise on one or another of James Alison's books. "Intellectual dynamite and spiritual joy" (Rohr); "wit, clarity, depth and surprises" (Williams); "deeply moving and liberating" (Radcliffe). Perhaps James Keenan has put it most memorably: "Not since C.S. Lewis has an English Christian summoned his readers into such holy conversations." And Andrew Sullivan has spoken for the community most touched by Alison's work: "a rich resource for gay Catholics trying to reconcile their own deep and profound faith with the hostility of the hierarchy." About half of his new book deals with lesbian and gay issues, particularly in light of the the latest Vatican ukase banning gays from seminaries, and the rest with a variety of tropes central to Christian faith and life: reconciliation, the Eucharist, psychology and evil, worship in a violent world. But whatever the topic Alison turns to he writes with the edgy brilliance of a "break-in" artist who is always full of surprises.

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Editorial Review

Review

"**Alison** continues his extraordinary contribution to Christian theologies of atonement, worship and biblical exegesis with a book that is at once learned and engaging, theoretically profound and homiletically fecund."

Reviewed in *Christian Century*, December 2006

About the Author

James Alison is a Catholic theologian, priest, and author. Having lived with the Dominican Order between 1981 and 1995, he currently travels the world as an itinerant preacher, lecturer, and retreat giver. He studied at Oxford University and the Jesuit Theology Faculty in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. He has lived and worked in México, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, and the United States as well as his native England. He is the author of *Knowing Jesus, Raising Abel: The Recovery of the Eschatological Imagination, The Joy of Being Wrong, Faith Beyond Resentment, On Being Liked and Undergoing God*.

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