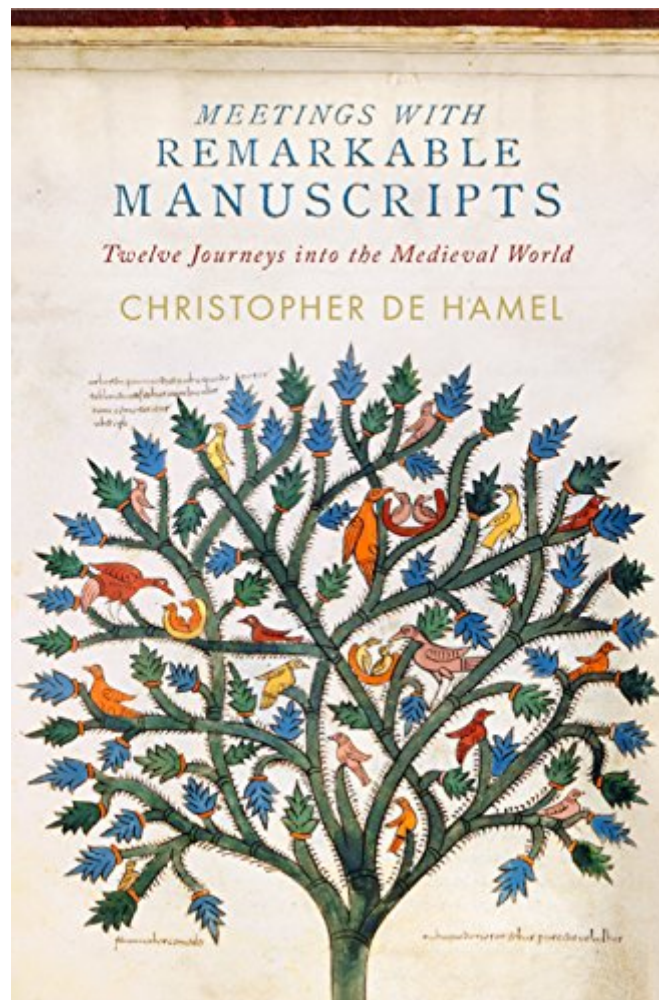




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Meetings With Remarkable Manuscripts: Twelve Journeys Into The Medieval World



Synopsis

Winner of THE WOLFSON HISTORY PRIZE and THE DUFF COOPER PRIZE An extraordinary and beautifully illustrated exploration of the medieval world through twelve manuscripts, from one of the world's leading experts — MEETINGS WITH REMARKABLE MANUSCRIPTS is a remarkable examination of twelve illuminated manuscripts from the medieval period. Noted authority Christopher de Hamel invites the reader into intimate conversations with these texts to explore what they tell us about nearly a thousand years of medieval history - and sometimes about the modern world too. In so doing, de Hamel introduces us to kings, queens, saints, scribes, artists, librarians, thieves, dealers, and collectors. He traces the elaborate journeys which these exceptionally precious artifacts have made through time, shows us how they have been copied, who has owned them or lusted after them (and how we can tell), how they have been embroiled in politics, how they have been regarded as objects of supreme beauty and as symbols of national identity. From the earliest book in medieval England to the incomparable Book of Kells to the oldest manuscript of the Canterbury Tales, these encounters tell a narrative of intellectual culture and art over the course of a millennium. — — Two of the manuscripts visited are now in libraries of North America, the Morgan Library in New York and the Getty Museum in Los Angeles. Part travel book, part detective story, part conversation with the reader, MEETINGS WITH REMARKABLE MANUSCRIPTS allows us to experience some of the greatest works of art in our culture to give us a different perspective on history and on how we come by knowledge.

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