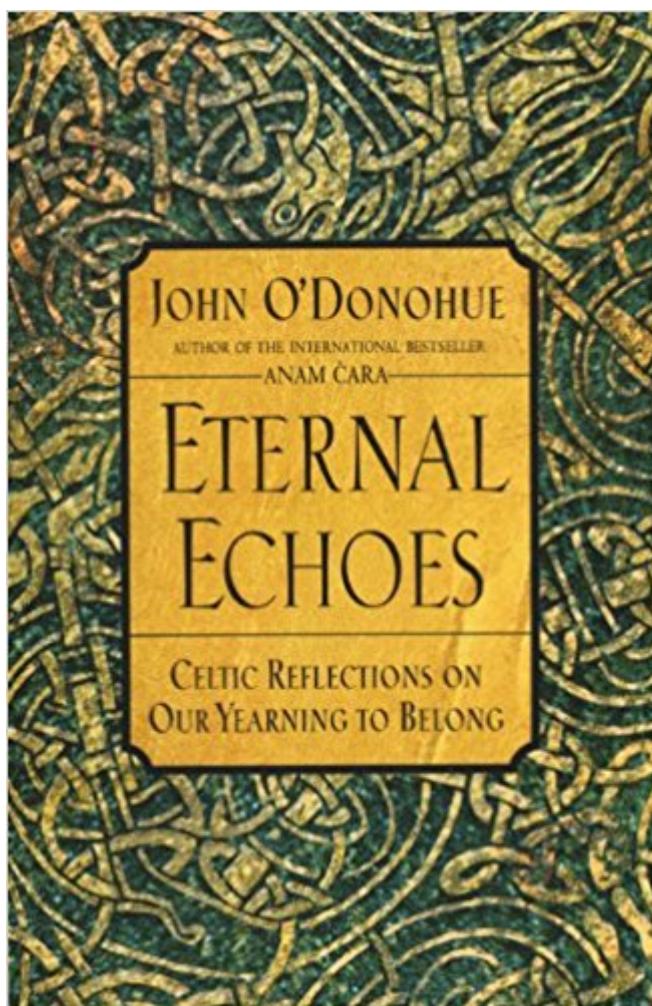


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# Eternal Echoes: Celtic Reflections On Our Yearning To Belong



## **Synopsis**

There is a divine restlessness in the human heart, our eternal echo of longing that lives deep within us and never lets us settle for what we have or where we are. In this exquisitely crafted and inspirational book, John O'Donohue, author of the bestseller *Anam Cara*, explores the most basic of human desires - the desire to belong, a desire that constantly draws us toward new possibilities of self-discovery, friendship, and creativity.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

John O'Donohue (*Anam Cara*), a Celtic poet, scholar, and philosopher with an Irish brogue, speaks to the deepest calling of our soul: the longing to belong. "To be human is to belong," he explains. "Belonging is a circle that embraces everything; if we reject it, we damage our nature. The word 'belonging' holds together the two fundamental aspects of life: Being and Longing, the longing of our Being and the being of our Longing." Although this may sound like an elaborate Celtic circle knot, O'Donohue has nevertheless woven a solid and easy-to-grasp book that speaks to the soul's constant yearning. Every passage is a delight for the senses, as O'Donohue shares his lilting poetic language, his Celtic imagery and stories, and his fireside-chat wisdom. This is a broad-reaching yet highly focused book that dares to explore the realm of legitimate angels, the meaning of suffering, and, most poignantly, how life on earth may never quench the soul's thirst for belonging. --Gail Hudson --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Following his popular *Anam Cara: A Book of Celtic Wisdom*, O'Donohue offers a soaring, eloquent

meditation on the art of living. In most people, he maintains, an innate, deep-seated hunger for belonging and relatedness is frustrated by our high-pressured, isolating consumerist culture. Distilling guideposts of Celtic spirituality from traditional Irish legends, fairy lore, lyric poetry and Druidic nature-worship, he also tosses into the pot some Zen Buddhism, Jewish mysticism and quotes from Simone Weil, Nietzsche, Yeats, Auden, Neruda, Merleau-Ponty and Romanian philosopher E.M. Cioran. O'Donohue invites readers to make their lives a constant pilgrimage of discovery. This, he says, involves freeing oneself from the mental prisons of guilt, rigid belief and self-punishment; learning to embrace one's individuality; and coming to terms with the loss, absence or death of loved ones. Though the writing occasionally gets syrupy, this intense, concentrated inquiry towers above most self-help or New Age fare. It includes pertinent commentary not only on addiction, parenting and music but also on the lure of cults and the resurgence of political tribalism, whether in Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia or Russia. A Catholic scholar who lives by a lake in Ireland, O'Donohue has produced a treasury for readers of all faithsAa demanding, high-wire existentialist adventure that will inspire readers to re-evaluate their goals and ways of being in the world. O'Donohue ends each chapter with a lyrical blessing or prayer, and his book itself is a profound, healing prayer. Agent, Kim Witherspoon. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This writing is insightful and important. I underlined so much that I will revisit, starring passages I wanted to talk over more with my husband that evening. So much to chew on in this book that I could only read a few pages at a time; my mind would be so full I feared skimming and I wanted to give every thought-provoking page its due. I've heard from others that this book came into their lives at just the right time and this certainly was true of me, after suffering a series of professional and personal losses that left me feeling untethered from my sense of self. I longed to feel plugged back in to the world again, and O'Donohue was the perfect guide.

What a beautiful, poetic voice.

Very essential reading for people who know there's more than meets the eye and the ancients knew about this world that we are in and that is inside of us. Easy read and comprehension. Also I use as a great gift for last minute, unexpected gifts that have meaning now!

Not only insightful but absolutely poetic in expression. Wish I could have sat at his knee.

Love him! Amazingly insightful and expresses the deeper side of recognizing and working through life's challenges. Acceptance and compassion for One's self....This is my spiritual reader, my go to book for those times you just need a little deeper insight. RIP John O'Donohue~

John is a true poet. I sensed that throughout the entire book. His images and metaphors are stunning. It was as if he was reading my thoughts and recording them. I forgot I was holding a book and felt like I was holding the hand of God as I was reading. Such profound thought, yet written so beautifully simple.

This is not a self help book in the typical style, but it can be. This author does not tell you the answers or what to do. Instead, he offers intriguing ideas about the human condition, inviting introspection on the part of the reader. Thus far, I have found his ideas fascinating, and a welcome companion to my human journey.

Great shape

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