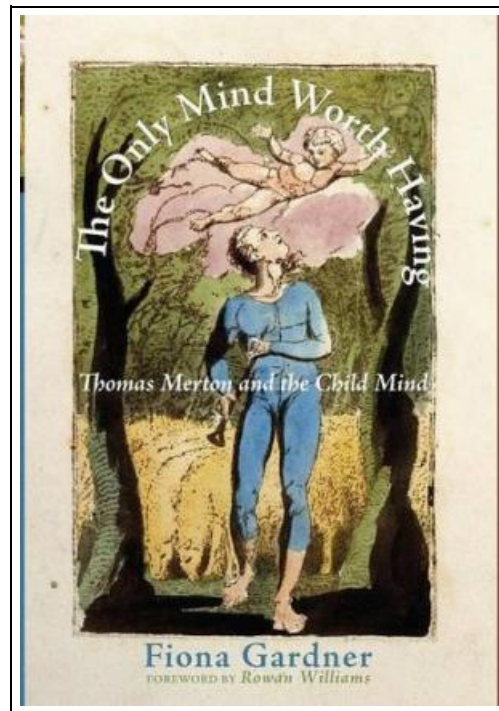


The Only Mind Worth Having (Hardback)



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CASCADE BOOKS, 2015. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.In *The Only Mind Worth Having*, Fiona Gardner takes Thomas Merton's belief that the child mind is the only mind worth having and explores it in the context of Jesus' challenging, paradoxical, and enigmatic command to become like small children. She demonstrates how Merton's belief and Jesus's command can be understood as part of contemporary spirituality and spiritual practice. To follow Christ's command requires a great leap of the imagination. Gardner examines what it might mean to make this leap when one is an adult without it becoming sentimental and mawkish, or regressive and pathological. Using both psychological and spiritual insights, and drawing on the experiences of Thomas Merton and others, Gardner suggests that in some mysterious and paradoxical way recovering a sense of childhood spirituality is the path toward spiritual maturity. The move from childhood spirituality to adulthood and on to a spiritual maturity through the child mind is a move from innocence to experience to organized innocence, or from dependence to independence to a state of being in-dependence with God. In this insightful, profoundly helpful, compelling book, Fiona Gardner draws upon her skills as a psychotherapist and theologian to explore Jesus' invitation to become as little children. This innovative book, so helpfully exemplified at every turn by reference to the story and writings of Thomas Merton, puts before us the vital necessity of finding again the spirit of the child--the child mind--as the path of spiritual maturity is pursued. --John Moses, Dean Emeritus of St Paul's Cathedral, London In this age dominated by utilitarian and technological reason, where the spiritual lives of children and adults are too often stunted by neglect and trauma, *The Only Mind Worth...*

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