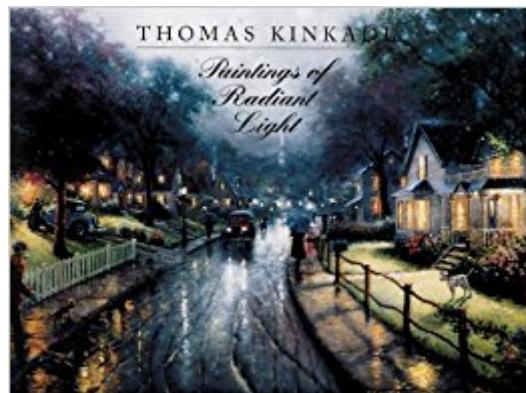


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# Thomas Kinkade: Paintings Of Radiant Light



## **Synopsis**

Celebrating the charming and radiant works of Thomas Kinkade, a foremost contemporary painter of light, this delightful volume recounts the uplifting story of the artist's life and adventures, recalls the inspiration behind his work, and describes the fascinating personal references--to loved ones and to his faith--found in his paintings. Over 75 color illustrations. 3 gatefolds.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 215 pages

Publisher: Abbeville Press; 1st edition (December 1, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0789200821

ISBN-13: 978-0789200822

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 12.5 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 31 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #486,401 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #237 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Regional U.S. > West #2843 in Books > Arts & Photography > Individual Artists #3944 in Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > History

## **Customer Reviews**

Whether he is painting tranquil, small-town America, thatched cottages, flower-drenched gardens or bustling cities, Northern California painter Kinkade suffuses his canvases with a subtly ethereal light. This mysterious light is the unifying force in appealing pictures that reaffirm hope, beauty and a sense of life's possibilities. In an informal autobiographical essay accompanying 120 color plates, Kinkade discusses his boyhood, his happy marriage and his Christian faith, and states that his goal as an artist is to create glimpses of a peaceful world "full of the beauty of God's creation." Yet, people of any or no faith will be intrigued and touched by his gently healing paintings, at once secular and transcendent. In her short closing essay, California art critic Reed places Kinkade's meticulously crafted paintings in the pleinairist tradition of direct observation of nature. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

If you have "Master works of Light" you will have pretty much every painting in this book. There is probably no way to collect this artists work without ending up with at least 7-8 of the majority of paintings. But there is one more annoying thing about this book. Some of the paintings - rather than

print them sideways on the page due to their proportions - the "brain" behind this book chose to fold and tape them.....yes, TAPE them to the page with flimsy quality tape that deteriorates quickly so that they soon unhinge themselves. So now you have a heavy crease through the middle of the picture. I could understand this to some degree if it weren't that these folded pictures were zoomed in details of a larger painting. In which case they could have made them whatever proportion they needed to be to fit the page. Go figure.

I bought this product as used-very good. Overall it was as advertised, but the dust cover did have gooey store stickers on the back and tape on the front. The pages were not totally clear of print and about 8-10 pages were creased at the rear of the book. After some clean up, I am still pleased w/this purchase.

The publisher did a great job reproducing the pictures. It is unfortunate that the art is second rate. Thomas Kinkade is not a great artist, even though he made a fortune. The size of many of the buildings in relationship to other objects in the picture is disconcerting. The perspective of his figures is off and the movements are odd. Anatomy takes back seat to sentiment. I call this cookie cutter art. He repeated a successful formula and made a lot of money on emotional, sentimental art. He is not a terrible artist, there are worse artists, but he is not a master. Even though he considered himself a painter who painted light, the light is artificial. it looks as if many of the homes are on fire. J. M. W. Turner was a master at painting light; Kinkade painted moods, not light. Most scenes take place on snowy, rainy, misty, or overcast days, or late in the day after the sun has set. In a way, this is a little gloomy, but it does set a nostalgic mood. He made use of sentiment and it was his ticket to success. Setting that aside, this is a fun book. If you need a little nostalgia in your life, or If you like opening up the little doors on advent calendars, or looking at eye candy, this is the book. It is easy on the mind. I now have to admit that I do open up this book often to look at the pictures, to note the details, and to feel a certain mood. I really like it. I also like books by Jan Brett, a children' author, for the same reason. If he continued painting, he may have been a good if not great artist; he certainly had the ego. This has become my go to book when I want inspiration, for a wonderful mood, or around the holidays. Even his art and his style gives me ideas.

Beautiful, inspiration read.

Very nice book, pics are really good quality.

I purchased this as a Christmas gift for my Mother. I thumbed through it to check it out, and I believe that she will like it very much.

This book is inspiring and uplifting. I enjoyed the background history on the artist and his faith. The art in this book is outstanding and soothing to the soul to look at. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys art and likes to learn the background on the artists painting the art.

I love this beautiful book. It arrived quickly and in excellent condition. Thank you.

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