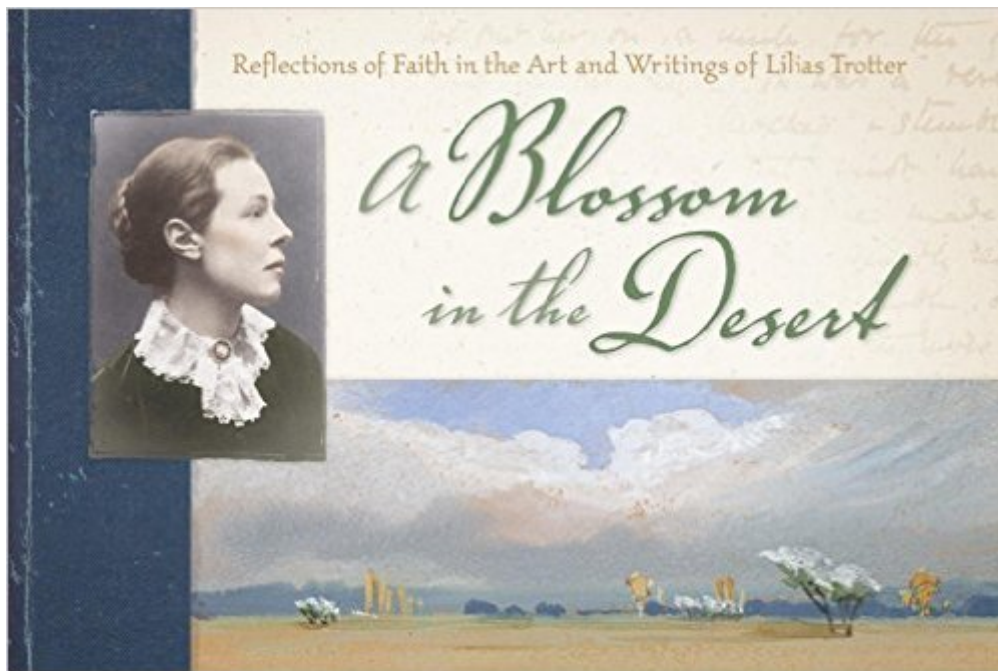


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# A Blossom In The Desert: Reflections Of Faith In The Art And Writings Of Liliias Trotter



## Synopsis

Lilias Trotter believed that God had two textbooksâ "Scripture and creationâ "and she studied both. Day by day for decades, Lilias recorded in words and watercolor paintings her observations of God through nature and people. A Blossom in the Desert showcases exquisite art and inspirational writings from her many devotional books, journals, and letters. Her humble insights and reflective watercolors, combined with words from Scripture, make this softcover book a keepsake youâ™ll treasure. Â

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Did you know your dream has come true? There's a book of Lilias Trotter's art now--A Blossom in the Desert," I emailed a friend last week. Miriam Rockness, who edited this book, earlier wrote the book that introduced me to Lilias Trotter, A Passion for the Impossible. I was so inspired by her story that I included it in Faithful Women and Their Extraordinary God. We who admire Lilias Trotter have waited a long time actually to see her artwork. Until now, it was hidden away in the Ashmolean Museum of Oxford University and in the archives of the Arab World Ministries. We owe a huge debt to Rockness for laboring to bring these exquisite works to the public. Lilias Trotter was an upper-class English woman of the Victorian era whose drawings and water colors were admired by John Ruskin, the art authority of the day. He foresaw for her a life of glory and fame if she devoted herself to her art. Instead, she turned her back on that dream and followed the calling of God to Algeria, arriving in 1888 and dying there 40 years later. As so often happens, she discovered that God wasn't asking her to give up her talent, but to use it in a different place for different

purposes. Among other things, she often illustrated her journal entries and the letters she sent home with her artwork, a visual treasure of North Africa as it was then.

My first introduction to Lilius Trotter came when I read *Faithful Women and Their Extraordinary God* by Noel Piper. I remember thinking at the time how wonderful it would be to actually see some of Trotter's art and read her writings. Sadly, her books are out of print and her paintings and sketchbooks are hidden away in the Print Room of the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, England. Miriam Huffman Rockness, however, set out on the long, arduous journey of finding Trotter's journals, diaries, out-of-print books, and art. She has given us a gift in *A Blossom in the Desert: Reflections of Faith in the Art and Writings of Lilius Trotter*. *A Blossom in the Desert* begins with a testimony from Rockness of how she first came to know, admire, and seek out the work of Lilius Trotter to fulfill her vision of seeing Trotter in print again. It is a story of God's providence. After reading this collection, I am convinced God is pleased with the unearthing of Trotter's work and will be glorified if more of His people follow her exemplary life. Trotter's mentor promised that "she would be the greatest living painter and do things that would be Immortal." In Trotter's mind, "to be Immortal" would mean she would have to "give herself up to art." She wrote, "I see clear as daylight now, I cannot give myself to painting in the way he means and continue to 'seek first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness.'" She forsook all the fame and riches of this world, the approval of her friends and family, to follow Christ in ministering to young Muslim girls and women in northern Africa.

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