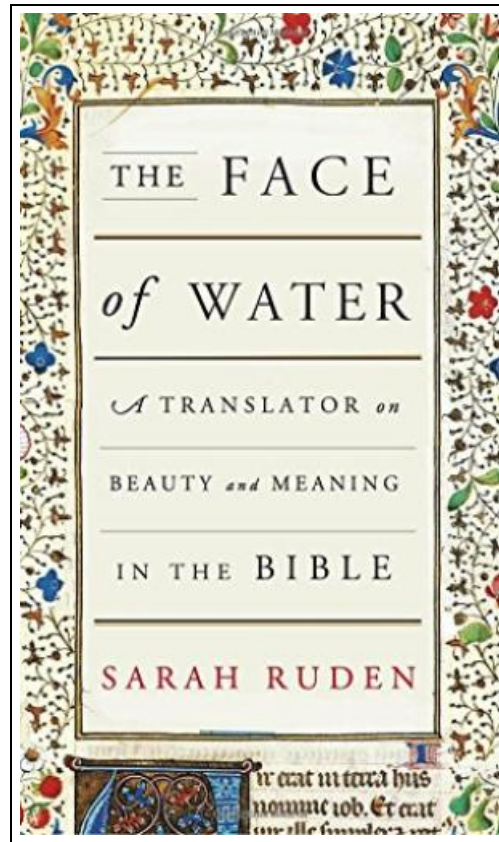


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Random House USA Inc, United States, 2017. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. A dazzling reconsideration of the original languages and texts of the Bible, in both the Old and the New Testaments, from the acclaimed scholar and translator of Classical literature (The best translation of the Aeneid, certainly the best of our time --Ursula Le Guin; The first translation since Dryden that can be read as a great English poem in itself --Garry Wills, The New York Review of Books) and author of Paul Among the People (Astonishing . . . Superb --Booklist, starred review). In *The Face of Water*, Sarah Ruden brilliantly and elegantly explains and celebrates the Bible's writings. Singling out the most famous passages, such as the Genesis creation story, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and the Beatitudes, Ruden reexamines and retranslates from the Hebrew and Greek what has been obscured and misunderstood over time. Making clear that she is not a Biblical scholar, cleric, theologian, or philosopher, Ruden--a Quaker--speaks plainly in this illuminating and inspiring book. She writes that while the Bible has always mattered profoundly, it is a book that in modern translations often lacks vitality, and she sets out here to make it less a thing of paper and glue and ink and more a live and loving text. Ruden writes of the early evolution, literary beauty, and transcendent ideals of the Hebrew Bible and the Greek New Testament, exploring how the Jews came to establish the greatest, most enduring book on earth as their regional strategic weakness found a paradoxical moral and spiritual strength through their writings, and how the Christians inherited and adapted this remarkable literary tradition. She writes as well about the crucial purposes of translation, not only for availability of texts...



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