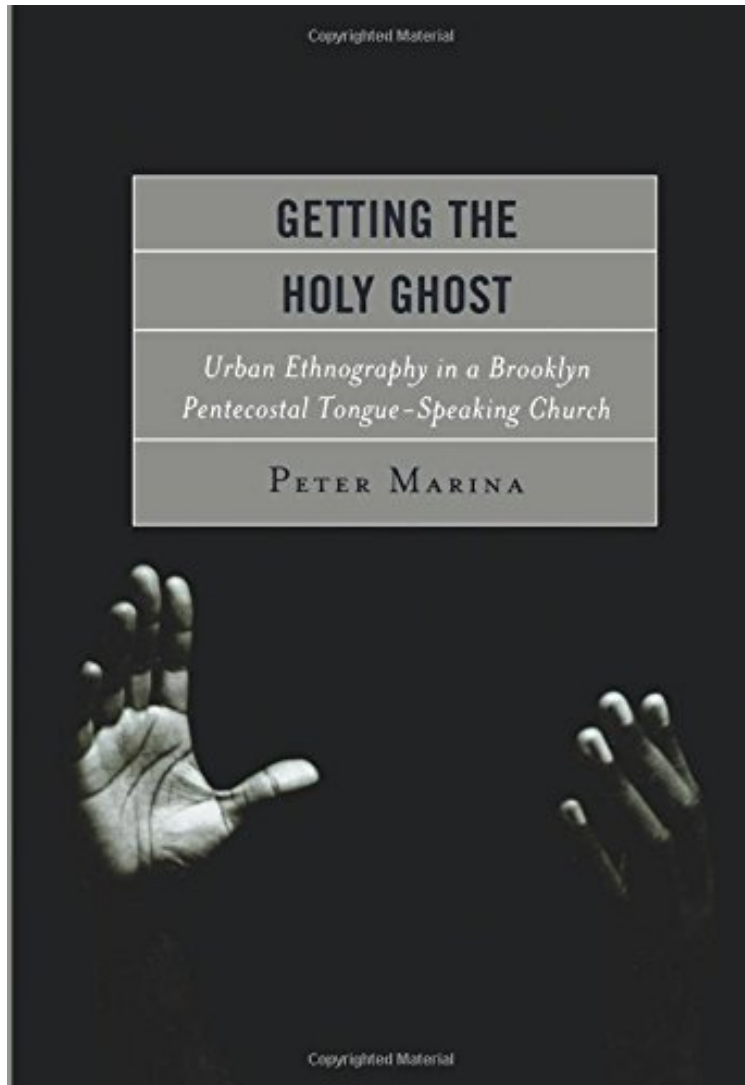


[FREE] Getting the Holy Ghost: Urban Ethnography in a Brooklyn Pentecostal Tongue-Speaking Church

Getting the Holy Ghost: Urban Ethnography in a Brooklyn Pentecostal Tongue-Speaking Church

Peter Marina

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Peter Marina : Getting the Holy Ghost: Urban Ethnography in a Brooklyn Pentecostal Tongue-Speaking Church before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Getting the Holy Ghost: Urban Ethnography in a Brooklyn Pentecostal Tongue-Speaking Church:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Life and culture of a small pentecostal church located in Brooklyn, New York.By GerardoPeter Marina delivered a wonderfull research using an ethnographic methodology utilized to study the life and culture of the members of a small pentecostal church located in Brooklyn, New York. Marina is able

to profoundly comprehend the complexity of rituals and ceremonies of the pentecostal church that will make the permanence in the future of this religion. The key finding is connected to the maintenance of charismatic profile of religious leaders and the speaking tongue skills develop through the socialization of the members. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Clear presentation and thorough scholarship

By Stephen D. Glazier "Getting the Holy Ghost" is the product of Peter Marina's four-year study of a small African American church in Brooklyn, New York. Marina focuses on individuals and individual processes of religious conversion with a special attention to speaking in tongues. His analysis features four complete transcripts of tongue speaking episodes with special attention to church members' thoughts about the experience of glossolalia. Marina convincingly argues that small Pentecostal congregations are better able to maintain their charismatic authority than large congregations. Overall, "Getting the Holy Ghost" contributes significantly to the study of African American Pentecostalism and the sociology of religious conversion. The author's presentation is clear, his attention to ethnographic detail is exemplary, and his scholarship is thorough. Stephen D. Glazier, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended!

By Laura Dr. Marina creates a clear picture of the Holy Ghost Church and its members. His persistent attention to the individuals described in the book are quite inspiring. Highly recommended! Also, each chapter highlights detailed events and/or efficient information to Marina's study and experience that are completely engaging.

This four-year ethnographic study of a small African American church in Brooklyn, a revision of the author's PhD dissertation, is exceptionally well organized. Sociologist Marina highlights what he sees as "exotic" aspects of Pentecostal worship, and is most interested in the processes of religious conversion, which he relates to speaking in tongues. He uncovered tremendous diversity of opinion within church members' thoughts concerning glossolalia. Earlier researchers examined glossolalia as a form of altered states of consciousness, but Marina offers mainly sociological explanations and ultimately argues that church members understand tongue speaking primarily as a form of social empowerment. He also insightfully analyzes church organization, outlining the formal and informal structures of the Holy Ghost Church with attention to charismatic authority. Earlier studies of Pentecostalism predicted that church authority would become increasingly bureaucratic over time, but Marina convincingly argues that leaders in smaller Pentecostal congregations are better able to maintain their claims to charisma. The author's presentation is clear, his attention to ethnographic detail exemplary, and his scholarship sound. A significant contribution to the study of African American Pentecostalism. Summing Up: Highly recommended. All levels/libraries. (CHOICE)

Getting the Holy Ghost makes significant contributions to our understanding of African-American Pentecostalism and to the sociological study of religious conversion. The author successfully highlights some of the tensions between traditional religion and the complexities of urban life [Getting the Holy Ghost] is an excellent study. Marina's presentation is clear, his attention to ethnographic detail is exemplary, and his scholarship is thorough. Highly recommended. (PentecoStudies)

Peter Marina presents a rare portrait of religious rites in a small community church in Brooklyn, New York. Marina's skillful use of qualitative data based on first hand accounts, in-depth interviews and daily encounters with neighborhood residents tell an intriguing story involving 'speaking in tongues,' rites of aggregation, and a moving pathos that is part of the historical circumstance of African-American life since slavery. It is powerful ethnography where outsiders are allowed into an often hidden world in plain sight. It is a fascinating account, thoughtful, and dynamic that deserves wide praise and should be read by all interested in life in the city. (Terry Williams, The New School)

Getting the Holy Ghost is a richly descriptive ethnography of an African American Pentecostal congregation in Brownsville, New York. Marina challenges the crisis model of religious conversion and instead argues that conversion is a life-long decision making process. Marina uses in-depth analysis of the conversion stories of ten participants, from pastors to recent converts, to make his case. While reading the life stories of these struggling Pentecostals, you'll feel as if you know each of them personally. (Peter Althouse, Southeastern University)

Getting the Holy Ghost is a skillfully researched account of a small African/Caribbean Pentecostal congregation in Brooklyn, N.Y. Framing the work with sociological theories on Pentecostalism and religious conversionsome supported, others modified and still others rejected

Peter Marina narrates a delightful story through his use of rich interview data and personal observation. His account points to the importance of considering the role emotion plays in the growth of Pentecostalism, a global movement launched over 100 years ago with a host of paranormal experiences, including tongue-speaking. Marina's analysis of how this small congregation balances charisma with institution in an age when spirituality increasingly challenges religious bureaucracy will be of interest not only to Pentecostal scholars but to all serious students of religion. (Margaret A. Poloma, University of Akron)

Peter Marina has achieved something quite rare in the annals of sociological ethnography: he has entered a community with which he had little in common and has told a compelling story about its innermost meanings, its organization, its cultural rituals and practices with the analytical deftness and observational acuity of an old hand. Yet, this is Marina's first book! It is a wonderful accomplishment by an expert chronicler of the everyday among the urban poor. Read it and experience life in a house of worship as you've never

seen it. (David Brotherton, The City University of New York) Getting the Holy Ghost is a marvelous ethnography which takes us to the hidden places and strange raptures of Pentecostalism, the largest Christian movement in the world today. Peter Marina has a fine eye for both physical and social detail: he writes like a dream and his text springs to life. In places it reads like a film script. You feel you are there amongst the dancers, the singers the people speaking in tongues and you share both his attraction and disquiet for this movement to reclaim the supernatural from the cold rationality of conventional religion. (Jock Young, The City University of New York)

About the Author Peter Marina, a visiting assistant professor at the University of Missouri at St. Louis, takes an approach to sociology that incorporates the dialectic of history and biography allowing him to penetrate and interact with a wide range of culturally diverse social groups: public high school youths, street kids, religiously inspired residents of the inner-city, and most recently, police officers of a large metropolitan police force. In a quest to understand both empirically and theoretically this rapidly changing, surprising and highly contradictory late-modern world. He received his PhD in sociology from the New School for Social Research in New York City and his M.A. in sociology from the University of New Orleans. He has previously lectured at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY). His research interests include urban sociology, urban ethnography, community studies, Latino immigration, race and ethnicity, and youth resistant subcultures, among others. Professor Marina instructs classes in urban sociology, conflict, qualitative research methods, problems in urban community, ethnic and minority relations, sociological writing, masculinities, gender studies, and power, ideology, and social movements.