



## A Solemn Pleasure: To Imagine, Witness, and Write

By Melissa Pritchard, Bret Anthony Johnston

Bellevue Literary Press. Paperback / softback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, *A Solemn Pleasure: To Imagine, Witness, and Write*, Melissa Pritchard, Bret Anthony Johnston, "Poets & Writers" Best Books for Writers selection "Publishers Weekly" Top 10: Literary Biographies, Essays & Criticism In an essay entitled "Spirit and Vision" Melissa Pritchard poses the question: Why write? Her answer reverberates throughout "A Solemn Pleasure," presenting an undeniable case for both the power of language and the nurturing constancy of the writing life. Whether describing the deeply interior imaginative life required to write fiction, searching for the lost legacy of American literature as embodied by Walt Whitman, being embedded with a young female GI in Afghanistan, traveling with Ethiopian tribes, or revealing the heartrending story of her informally adopted son William, a former Sudanese child slave, this is nonfiction vividly engaged with the world. In these fifteen essays, Pritchard shares her passion for writing and storytelling that educates, honors, and inspires. Melissa Pritchard is the author of, most recently, the novel "Palmerino" and the short story collection "The Odditorium." Her books have received the Flannery O Connor, Janet Heidinger Kafka, and Carl Sandburg awards and two of her short fiction collections were "New York..."



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