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“RIVETING... A PROFOUNDLY MOVING MEMOIR”
- *ALA BOOKLIST*, STARRED REVIEW

**“ONE OF OUR NATION’S MOST BRILLIANT AND MORALLY SERIOUS
PUBLIC INTELLECTUALS”**
- *PROF. ROBERT GEORGE*, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

“REMINISCENT OF ST. AUGUSTINE’S ‘CONFESSIONS’”
- *KIRKUS REVIEWS*

A BI-ETHNIC NYC IMMIGRANT SON’S LOVE SONG TO AMERICA

FISH OUT OF WATER

ERIC METAXAS

What happens when one of America’s most admired biographers writes his own biography? For five-time *New York Times* bestselling author Eric Metaxas (*Bonhoeffer*), the answer is ***Fish Out of Water: A Search for the Meaning of Life*** (Salem Books; February 2, 2021: ISBN-10:1684511720; hardcover; 416 pages; \$32:99 US) — a soaring, lyrical, and often mischievous account of his early years, in which the astute Queens-born son of Greek and German immigrants struggles to make sense of a world in which he never quite seems to fit. While millions know Metaxas as a celebrated author, the witty host of *Socrates in the City*, and a nationally syndicated radio personality, here he reveals a personal story that few have known. The offspring of two families with disparate traditions, their affection carried him through myriad childhood adventures and a riotous education at Yale. But as a young writer, Metaxas drifts toward an abyss of meaninglessness—one from which he barely escapes. Along the way, Metaxas introduces us to an unforgettable troupe of Runyonesque characters who join this quintessentially first-generation American boy on his odyssey, underscoring how simultaneously funny, serious, happy, sad, and meaningful life can be.

“With his **inimitable intelligence and wit**, Eric Metaxas recounts his formative years as a **first-generation immigrant**, the crucial development of his ability to think for himself rather than following the herd, and the process of **learning to follow his heart and mind wherever the truth leads.**”

— **Jill Lamar**, former editor-in-chief of Henry Holt and curator of new titles for Barnes & Noble

“What do Robert Plant, ice fishing, Yale, the 1953 earthquake in Greece, John Cheever, Valium substitutes, house painters, and Bradlee’s Department Store have to do with Eric Metaxas’s search for the meaning of life? In a word: Everything. **This memoir of one of our best writer’s coming of age is a beautiful thing: deeply intelligent, spiritually acute, and laugh-out-loud funny.**”

— **Bret Lott**, bestselling author of fourteen books including *Jewel*, an Oprah Book Club selection

BMM

“In this portrait of the Metaxas as a young man, deeply serious matters exist most comfortably with great wit and maximum humor. As enjoyable as it is to follow him from birth through the fog of his twenties and into the sunlight at their end, you will see that you have also painlessly embraced a wonderful complexity. Even the title represents multiple meanings woven throughout the book and, as in the solution to a mystery, unified and made clear at its end. A delight. I read it in the sunshine, which was entirely appropriate.”

— **Mark Helprin**, author of many bestselling books including *A Winter's Tale*

“Metaxas is a major writer. Not to be missed.”

— **Dick Cavett**, American television personality, comedian and former talk show host

About the Author

ERIC METAXAS is an author whose books have been translated into twenty-five languages. The host of a nationally syndicated radio show and the acclaimed conversation series *Socrates in the City*, he is a prominent cultural commentator whose work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *the New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, and *the Wall Street Journal*. He lives with his family in New York City.

About BMM Worldwide

BMM Worldwide is a New York literary development house that works with leading publishers, authors and agents across the areas of representation, publicity and branding. Clients include Regnery Publishing, St. Martin's Press, W. W. Norton & Co., agent/author Betsy Lerner, Stanford University historian Stephen J. Zipperstein, and political megastars Diamond and Silk. Backed by Peter Thiel, BMM Worldwide launched emBooks, a cross-atlantic publisher of magazine article-length books.

FISH OUT OF WATER by Eric Metaxas

Salem Books, February 2, 2021, 416 pages, Hardcover, \$32.99 US

ISBN 10:1684511720 English

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