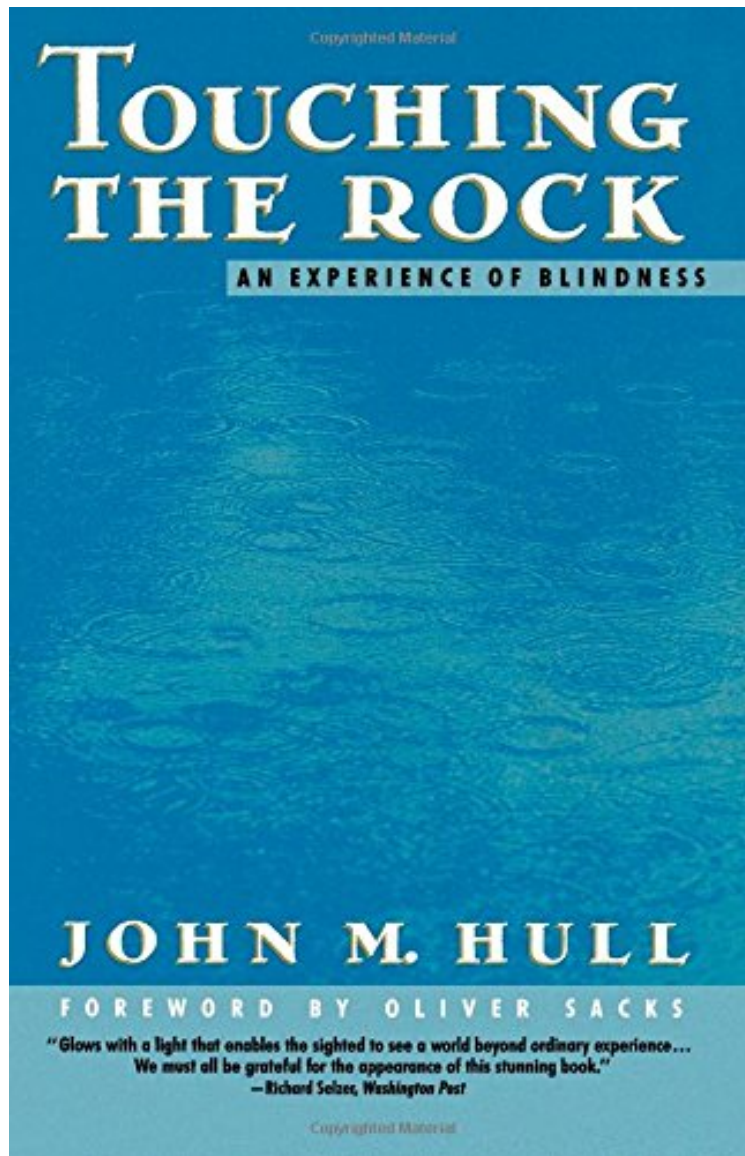


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Touching the Rock: An Experience of Blindness

John M. Hull

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John M. Hull : Touching the Rock: An Experience of Blindness before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Touching the Rock: An Experience of Blindness:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Poignant in its Delivery By David W. Hensley I really enjoyed the narration that gives a sighted person a glimpse into the world of visually-impaired person. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This slim volume is a remarkably intimate experience. John ... By Valerie Fletcher This slim volume is a remarkably intimate experience. John M. Hull shares brief and compelling reflections of his first years of

blindness as a young husband, father and professor of theology. This is not autobiography but personal diary generously shared. One comes away with a window into a life experience most of us will not experience. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A powerful and moving book By Joel F. Richeimer Moving. Insightful. A book that will stay with you long after you put it down. There is some controversy on how typical Hull's experience is of blindness. See Oliver Sacks, *The Mind's Eye*. But even if Hull's experience is atypical, it is well worth reading. It will expand your sense of the range of human experience.

With a foreword by Oliver Sacks Shortly after John Hull went blind, after years of struggling with failing vision, he had a dream in which he was trapped on a sinking ship, submerging into another, unimaginable world. The power of this calmly eloquent, intensely perceptive memoir lies in its thorough navigation of the world of blindness a world in which stairs are safe and snow is frightening, where food and sex lose much of their allure and playing with one's child may be agonizingly difficult. As he describes the ways in which blindness shapes his experience of his wife and children, of strangers helpful and hostile, and, above all, of his God, Hull becomes a witness in the highest, true sense. *Touching the Rock* is a book that will instruct, move, and profoundly transform anyone who reads it.

From Publishers Weekly This unsentimental memoir of the experiences of a newly blind person provides many insights about the quest for the unified life. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal In 1983, Hull, a university lecturer who had lived with sight problems from the age of 13, found that the dark discs he had fought for 36 years had finally overwhelmed his sight. The spiritual and emotional reactions to his vision loss form the basis of this poignant memoir, and the many questions he asks contribute to his eventual acceptance of his fate. A richly textured dream life adds to his exploration of the "other world" of blindness, and the understanding and meaning he finds coalesce into a powerful work. For those seeking practical solutions and strategies to cope with visual impairment, Margaret M. Smith's *If Blindness Strikes, Don't Strike Out* (Charles C. Thomas, 1984) provides a storehouse of information. Recommended for consumer health collections.- Janet M. Coggan, Univ. of Florida Lib., Gainesville Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. John Hull goes a long way toward taking us with him through his descent into total blindness. . . . He lets us see with no trace of self-pity or self-praise how blindness has become for him a genuine acquisition, an unforeseeably rich gift that has made of him what so few of us are: excellent watchers and hearers of the world. . . . triumphant in the teeth of ruin. Reynolds Price Glows with a light that enables the sighted to a world beyond ordinary experience. . . . We must all be grateful for the appearance of this stunning book. The Washington Post In 1983, Hull, a university lecturer who had lived with sight problems from the age of 13, found that the dark discs he had fought for 36 years had finally overwhelmed his sight. The spiritual and emotional reactions to his vision loss form the basis of this poignant memoir, and the many questions he asks contribute to his eventual acceptance of his fate. A richly textured dream life adds to his exploration of the other world of blindness, and the understanding and meaning he finds coalesce into a powerful work. Library Journal