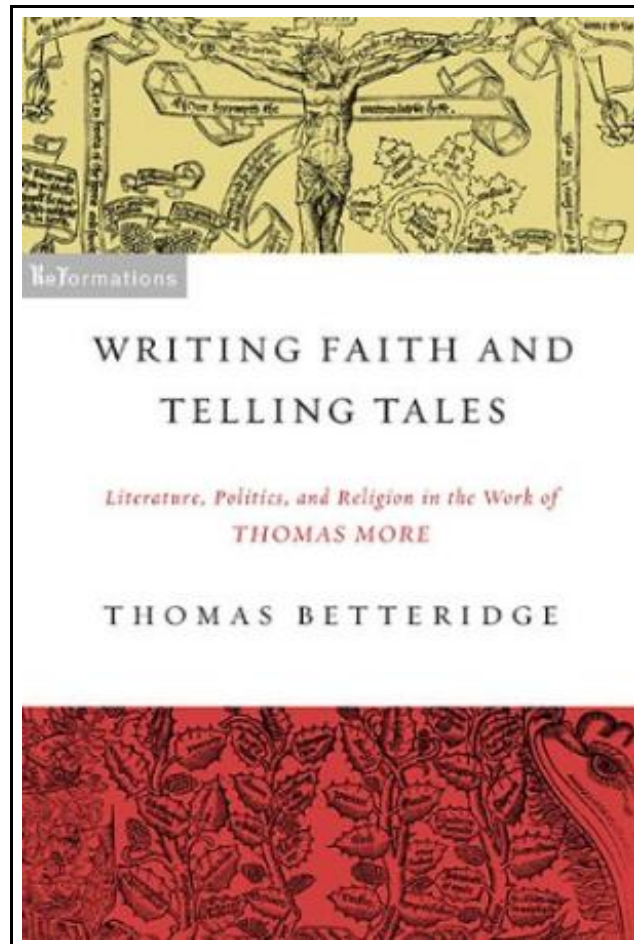


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WRITING FAITH AND TELLING TALES: LITERATURE, POLITICS, AND RELIGION IN THE WORK OF THOMAS MORE (PAPERBACK)



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University of Notre Dame Press, United States, 2013. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Thomas More is a complex and controversial figure who has been regarded as both saint and persecutor, leading humanist and a representative of late medieval culture. His religious writings, with their stark and at times violent attacks on what More regarded as heresy, have been hotly debated. In *Writing Faith and Telling Tales*, Thomas Betteridge sets More's writings in a broad cultural and chronological context, compares them to important works of late fourteenth- and fifteenth-century vernacular theology, and makes a compelling argument for the revision of existing histories of Thomas More and his legacy. Betteridge focuses on four areas of More's writings: politics, philosophy, theology, and devotion. He examines More's *History of King Richard III* as a work of both history and political theory. He discusses *Utopia* and the ways in which its treatment of reason reflects More's Christian humanism. By exploring three of More's lesser known works, *The Supplication of Souls*, *The Confutation*, and *The Apology*, Betteridge demonstrates that More positioned his understanding of heresy within and against a long tradition of English anti-heretical writing, as represented in the works of Hoccleve, Lydgate, and Love. Finally, Betteridge focuses on two key concepts for understanding More's late devotional works: prayer and the book of Christ. In both cases, Betteridge claims, More seeks to develop a distinctive position that combines late medieval devotionalism with an Augustinian emphasis on the ethics of writing and reading. *Writing Faith and Telling Tales* poses important questions concerning periodisation and confessionalisation and will influence future work on the English Reformation and humanist writing in England.

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