Clarion Review

Religion

Everybody for Everybody: Truth, Oneness, Good, and Beauty for Everyone
Samuel A. Nigro
Xlibris
978-1-4415-7238-7
Two Stars (out of Five)

According to Dr. Donald DeMarco of Kitchener, Ontario, author and psychiatrist Samuel Nigro is nothing like the clichéd therapists so often found in film and on television. He claims that Nigro is "eager to work overtime to provide wise counsel, not only for his own patients, but also for an expanded clientele of potential readers." Sadly, this doesn't come across in Nigro's first self-help book which aims to save man from alienation in today's world and instill in him a sense of peace and oneness.

Everybody for Everybody is broken down into sections that correspond with the Seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church. Each sacrament is offered as a solution to common problems, such as illness, drug and alcohol abuse, anxiety, aggression, and even work. The book contains much useful information and many noteworthy tidbits, but the problem is that few of these helpful answers can be attributed to Samuel Nigro himself. The most remarkable quotes and tools found within the book come from such notable sources such as Jean Jacques Rousseau, Pope Pius XI, St. Thomas Aquinas, Tolstoy, Oscar Wilde, William Shakespeare, and even Mae West.

Some of the more memorable and amusing quotes come from none other than Bill Cosby: "Don't burn all your bridges unless you have a boat," he says, and "Every closed eye is not sleeping, and every open eye is not seeing."

Cleverly sandwiched between some of the more valuable quotes are Samuel Nigro's less than memorable sayings. "Sin is the primary manifestation of the acquired transcendental deficiency syndrome," he notes. About homosexuality, he writes, "when someone says it is a disorder, and the individuals with it want to be treated normally, then I can understand and can help."

The book is essentially a collection of quotes that will surely engage readers searching

for advice on any given topic, for better or worse. Readers may wonder whether some of the quotes have been taken out of context by Nigro in an attempt to further his extremist views of society. After all, it is doubtful that Pope Pius XI would wish to have his name listed alongside this statement by Samuel Nigro: “After World War II, the Jews became Nazis.”