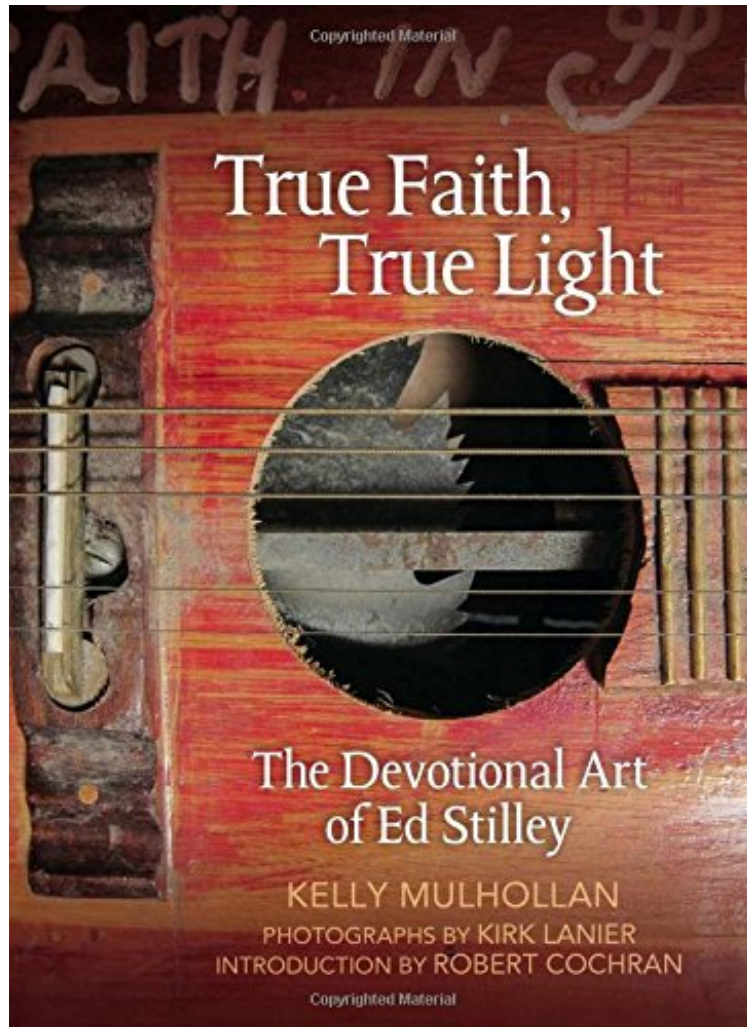


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True Faith, True Light: The Devotional Art of Ed Stilley (The Arkansas Character)

Kelly Mulhollan

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Kelly Mulhollan : True Faith, True Light: The Devotional Art of Ed Stilley (The Arkansas Character) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised True Faith, True Light: The Devotional Art of Ed Stilley (The Arkansas Character):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A God Blessed Journey By Customer A totally amazing and inspirational book, for the curious and creative type person. Or, possibly our history folks. This man's journey, by God's loving hand, shows what is possible, with inventiveness, hard work, inspiration from God, and talent. Wonderful

10 of 0 people found the following review helpful. is written with love, careBy Sara CaulkThis book about the life of Arkansas Living Treasure, Ed Stilley, is written with love, care, and humor by Kelly Mulhollan, who along with his talented wife and band partner, Donna, took the time to get to know Mr. Stilley and preserve a part of Arkansas culture and history hat is slipping away. Great story with wonderful photos.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. kelly did a great job.By RVJed is my neighbor. kelly did a great job.

In 1979, Ed Stilley was leading a simple life as a farmer and singer of religious hymns in Hogscald Hollow, a tiny Ozark community south of Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Life was filled with hard work and making do for Ed, his wife Eliza, and their five children, who lived in many ways as if the second half of the twentieth century had never happened. But one day Eds life was permanently altered. While plowing his field, he became convinced he was having a heart attack. Ed stopped his work and lay down on the ground. Staring at the sky, he saw himself as a large tortoise struggling to swim across a river. On his back were five small tortoiseshis childrenclinging to him for survival. And then, as he lay there in the freshly plowed dirt, Ed received a vision from God, telling him that he would be restored to health if he would agree to do one thing: make musical instruments and give them to children. And so he did. Beginning with a few simple hand tools, Ed worked tirelessly for twenty-five years to create over two hundred instruments, each a crazy quilt of heavy, rough-sawn wood scraps joined with found objects. A rusty door hinge, a steak bone, a stack of dimes, springs, saw blades, pot lids, metal pipes, glass bottles, aerosol cansEd used anything he could to build a working guitar, fiddle, or dulcimer. On each instrument Ed inscribed True Faith, True Light, Have Faith in God.True Faith, True Light: The Devotional Art of Ed Stilley documents Ed Stilleys life and work, giving us a glimpse into a singular life of austere devotion.

True Faith, True Light should be in the collection of any instrument fan or builder. Mulhollans portrait of a man driven by faith and the gorgeous photos by Kirk Lanier make this a winner. The book is as much an art piece as Stilleys guitars.In an era of perfection dictated by Autotune and CNC machines, the world needs Ed Stilley. This book is essential.Guitar World