BOOKS I'VE READ: NOT SO SECRET

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IVP recently asked me to write a commendation for Graham Orr's excellent new bookÂ Not so secret. I was more than happy to do so, and this is what I came up with. If you buy the book, you will discover that the publishers only used one fragment of a sentence from my carefully crafted prose - but hey, it's a great book!



> *â€œImagine what it is like being a cross-cultural missionary. The embarrassing early days when you are learning the language and canâ€™t work out what it is you want to buy in the shops and you donâ€™t have the words to apologise to your neighbour when your toilet overflows into the flat below. Then later on you have to try and understand how to function as a church in a society with very different social conventions, work patterns and religious background to everything you have ever known before. Then again, perhaps we donâ€™t need to imagine what it is like to physically cross-cultures. There are many cultural difficulties and barriers associated with sharing the gospel in post-Christian Britain, itâ€™s just that they are so familiar, we donâ€™t always recognise them.*
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> *In â€œNot so Secretâ€ , Graham Orr, a long term missionary in Japan shares his experience of making friends, building community and sharing the love of Christ in a situation which is very different to the North of England where he grew up. But this isnâ€™t just another book of encouraging and amusing missionary stories (though it is that). Using his experiences in Japan as a starting point and reflecting Scripture and on time spent as a Church leader in the UK, Orr encourages us to rethink how we can live as missionary Christians in our own culture. This is a challenging, thought provoking and ultimately heart-warming book. There is a lot of talk in missionary circles about being a reflective-practitioner. If you want to know what that means, read this book; you wonâ€™t find a many better examples.â€*