



# The Making of American Liberal Theology: Crisis, Irony, and Postmodernity, 1950-2005

By Gary Dorrien

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In this concluding volume of his magisterial trilogy, Gary Dorrien sustains his previous definition of liberal theology and his mixture of theological, philosophical, and historical analysis, while emphasizing the unprecedented diversity of liberal theology in the postmodern age. Dorrien argues that liberal theology has been in crisis for the past half-century, yet despite the crisis, and also because of it, it has also experienced a “hidden renaissance” of intellectual creativity. Liberal theology in the early twenty-first century is more diverse, complex, and marginalized than ever before in its history, he concludes, but its essential idea—creating a progressive, credible, integrative third way between orthodox over-belief and secular unbelief—remains as necessary as ever.

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**The Making of American Liberal Theology: Crisis, Irony, and Postmodernity, 1950-2005** By Gary Dorrien **Bibliography**

- Rank: #1352703 in Books
- Published on: 2006-11-15
- Released on: 2006-11-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.21" h x 1.36" w x 6.14" l, 2.04 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 688 pages

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#### About the Author

Gary Dorrien is Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary, New York. He is the author of numerous books, including the first two volumes of *The Making of American Liberal Theology* and *The Barthian Revolt in Modern Theology*—all available from Westminster John Knox Press.

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