



THE AMISH & THE SHAKERS

Seeking the Spiritual Life

PHOTOGRAPHS/DON NESBITT ♦ NARRATIVE/CHARLES STENKEN



Though separating themselves from the mainstream of culture, the Amish and the Shakers have continued to generate widespread fascination and interest among the American populace. It is more than mere curiosity that attracts us, though that may have motivated our first look. It is something deeper that draws

us back; something in who they are or in what they represent stirs our hearts and engages our minds, even as we remain external observers. For some of us, it may be a longing for a simpler time or perhaps, weariness with the alienation and materialism of contemporary society. For others, it may be an attraction to

their communal lifestyle or their commitment to strongly held principles. Whatever the cause, we are moved. It is our sincere hope that the photos and few words presented in this book will be a spring-board for reflection; an opportunity to consider what it is that intrigues or touches our hearts.

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