

## Praise for Frank's Writings

"Frank Schaeffer's gifts as a novelist are more than comic: *Saving Grandma* has a deeper river flowing through it as well, one that is sensual and loving and full of true grace. This is a wonderful book!"—**Andre Dubus III, author of *House of Sand and Fog***

"Poignant and hilarious, Calvin is immensely appealing. . . . Schaeffer . . . is very funny, but we are never far from a sense that harshness and violence are real; we are never entirely sure how things will turn out. . . . Calvin, the irrepressibly endearing hero of Frank Schaeffer's [Calvin Becker Trilogy] is the son of a missionary family, and their trip to Portofino is the highlight of his year. But even in the seductive Italian summer, the Beckers can't really relax. Calvin's father could slip into a Bad Mood and start hurling potted plants at any time. His mother has an embarrassing habit of trying to convert "pagans" on the beach. And his sister Janet has a ski sweater and a miniature Bible in her luggage, just in case the Russians invade and send them to Siberia. His dad says everything is part of God's plan. But this summer, Calvin has some plans of his own." —**Richard Eder Los Angeles Times**

"A wry coming of age tale . . . splendid laugh-out loud moments."  
—**Kirkus Reviews \*starred review**

"Calvin Becker is back in a timely, timeless story about the volcanic sexual curiosity of a fourteen-year-old boy born into a fundamentalist family so strict that he has never seen a movie, watched television, or danced (and has to hide his five copies of *Mad* magazine in the attic). It is 1966, and Ralph and Elsa Becker, Reformed Presbyterian missionaries from Kansas, are stationed in Switzerland, and on a modest ski vacation with their three children: tyrannical eighteen-year-old Janet, angelic Rachael, and our narrator, the irrepressible Calvin. But then, while at the Hotel Riffelberg, high above Zermatt, the fourteen-year-old falls into the hands of a waitress who, while bringing him his breakfast each morning, initiates him into ecstasies he can barely begin to comprehend. Told with warmth and humor." —**Library Journal**

"The author lets each character speak in alternating chapters. (In heaven, Jack befriends a down-to-earth God who is a "wannabe theatre director.") The reader marvels at how Schaeffer makes this concise chorus of social conviction moving and memorable by emphasizing emotion over description. By no means is Baby Jack another War and Peace. Think War and People instead." **USA Today**

### PRESS ABOUT FRANK'S WRITINGS

## Richmond Times-Dispatch

### Like a Good Vacation

"The wonderful thing about this book is that it feels like a vacation. . . . And, like any really good vacation, it ends too soon." —**The Richmond Times-Dispatch**

## PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

### Humorous

"Beautifully written . . . great insight and unselfconscious humor."  
—**Publishers Weekly \*starred review**

## The Washington Times

### A Challenging Faith

"A profound and sometimes painful look at the challenges of practicing faith, and a lot of fun to read." —**Washington Times**



“[Schaeffer's] memoirs have a way of winning a reader's friendship... Schaeffer is a good memoirist, smart and often laugh-out-loud funny... Frank seems to have been born irreverent, but his memoirs have a serious purpose, and that is to expose the insanity and the corruption of what has become a powerful and frightening force in American politics... Frank has been straightforward and entertaining in his campaign to right the political wrongs he regrets committing in the 1970s and '80s... As someone who has made redemption his work, he has, in fact, shown amazing grace.” *Washington Post, Jane Smiley*

“The book[s] shine ... A consummate memoirist, Schaeffer fills the narrative with interesting anecdotes... The sage conversation on a New York-bound bus with a distraught Asian girl is warmly resonant and a befitting conclusion to... [a] book of ruminations, memories and frustrated opinion.” *Booklist*

“[A] startlingly honest work, which is part memoir and part religious history... Intriguing fare.” *Church of England Newspaper*

“A work that alternates from heartwarming to thought provoking to laugh out loud funny... Schaeffer brilliantly guides the reader through an exploration of the Bible's strange, intolerant, and sometimes frightening attitudes about sex, and how these Biblical teachings, through the evangelical grassroots

of the Republican Party, have come to dominate the GOP stance... Schaeffer's writing style combines intelligence, warmth, humor, depth and insight... Sex, Mom, and God is hands down one of the best non-fiction books of the year.” *Kirkus Reviews*

“A fond and sometimes hilarious look back at [Schaeffer's] mother's child-rearing methods and the effect they had on him... Schaeffer's journey demonstrates that the world could be a better place if we were all able to reassess our beliefs and values-to examine them closely and glean only those worth saving.” *Library Journal \* starred review*

“Well worth reading, highly entertaining, and very informative about the recent history of American evangelicalism. It will appeal to readers interested in the world today, memoir, or religion.” *Huffington Post*

“Part memoir, part revelation about Evangelical pathology, and part prescription for theological sanity, the book has much to recommend it.” *Patheos.com*

“Part memoir, part theology, and part political commentary... An ambitious undertaking. But Sex, Mom, and God did not disappoint. Alternating between laugh-out-loud episodes and poignant reflections, Schaeffer recounts with candor the influence his mother had on both his beliefs and the beliefs of a generation of Evangelicals... His readers-believers and non-believers alike-will be challenged to reconsider their views about politics, sex, and religion.” *The Daily Beast*

“An unusual mix-part memoir, part exegesis on Bible-based belief systems, and part prescription for a more compassionate, human-centered politics for both religious and theologically skeptical people. Humor, at times of the laugh-out-loud variety, is abundant. And while readers will likely bristle at some of Schaeffer's conclusions, his wit, sass and insights make Sex, Mom, & God a valuable and entertaining look at U.S. fundamentalism.” *San Francisco Book Review*

“Frank Schaeffer reads similarly to George Orwell's 'Homage to Catalonia.' Orwell's book describes his growing disillusionment as he fought against fascism during the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s... like Orwell [Schaeffer] became disillusioned with the extremism he encountered. Schaeffer fled the evangelical scene in the early 1990s... He now has created a thought-provoking analysis of the social and religious struggles that continue to define American consciousness.” *The Roanoke Times*