



# On Seeing and Noticing

*Alain de Botton*

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## **On Seeing and Noticing** Alain de Botton

In *On Seeing and Noticing*, Alain de Botton takes everyday concerns such as expressing sadness or being romantic and dispenses advice and observations based on the works of some of history's greatest writers, artists and thinkers.

## **On Seeing and Noticing Details**

Date : Published May 6th 2005 by Penguin Books Ltd (first published May 2005)

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Author : Alain de Botton

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*kaleme ald??? bir kitaptaki sözcükler, kim oldu?umuzu ve nas?l bir dünyada ya?ad???m?z? tüm derinli?iyle kavramam?z? sa?larlar." (Sayfa: 39)*

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### **Kim Tong Lim says**

This is a pocket book published by Penguin with only 56 pages, back in 2005 at a time when Penguin Books was celebrating its 70th year of bringing good books into our lives.

Alain de Botton writes books on philosophy of everyday life. His writing is intended to help people enjoy happier lives. Don't we want that? If you are like me searching for ways to enrich our earthly existence and wanting to know what our counterparts are encountering (in private), you would enjoy reading this book. He describes daily matters in beautifully-crafted language that I myself felt inadequate in expressing. At the end of reading, you felt the satisfaction of seeing and noticing what you had all along been exposed to in the subconscious.

Alain de Botton writes nine essays covering titles such as "On the Pleasures of Sadness", "On Authenticity", "On Work and Happiness", "On the Charm of Boring Places", "On Writing (and Trouts)" and "On Comedy". He sees more than the mundane and adds subtle humour to a rather sedate everyday behaviour and places. The writer uses works of some of history's greatest writers, artists and thinkers to add to his observations and draw life lessons to the writings. The book is meant to be uplifting and it leaves you happy reading. I was more impressed with his choice of words and his expressive ways that re-reading it a second time will bring additional joy. This book is not to be rushed, it is to be enjoyed slowly.

"Typically, the written account grazes the surface of an event, we see a sunset and later in the diary, fumble for something and call it "beautiful" when we know it was a lot more, but the more can't be fixed and is soon forgotten." - A passage taken from "On Writing (and Trouts)". This sounds like me.

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### **Leila Lotfy says**

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### **Loredana (Bookinista08) says**

O c?rtic? format? din medita?ii filozofice simpliste, pentru omul de rând. Con?ine chestii din via?a de zi cu zi ?i poate fi urm?rit? cu u?urin??. Nu m-a dat pe spate, dar mi-a pl?cut stilul lui Alain de Botton.

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### **Amir Latifi says**

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### Baharan Eskandari says

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### Alanna says

This is a guy that I could sit down and talk to for days. About absolutely anything. In this book he's taken snippets from his other books and compiled it for Penguin books as a pocket book. It's only 56 pages, but is so insightful and fascinating! He talks about the pleasures of sad things, specifically art, in this case, and it all makes so much sense. Loved he chapter about the charm of boring places. I love the calm of boring places. The serenity of the seemingly mundane. He talked about Travel and Comedy and even Going to the Zoo. The best was his chapter on Authenticity where he discusses his first date with his to be wife and how we all tend to mold ourselves to be what we think someone we like wants us to be. So true. Tiny book. Chock full of a wealth on knowledge and insight. LOVED IT!

## Dragos C Butuzea says

cu plictiseală despre plictiseli

o critică scrisă în stilul alert și direct al lui Alain de Botton, dar destul de slabă. Așa cum îi arată și titlul în engleză, sunt notații fugare, ca de jurnal, despre născăva chestii ce-i gâdilă piticii. aici de Botton pare un fel de paler.

evident că sunt și lucruri mai consistente, de pildă eseul despre utilitatea muncii, în care sfârșete cu ideea că, oricât s-ar da cu capul de pereți, motivaționalii cu cărțile de dezvoltare mănăncă rahat afirmând că munca te face fericit. muncind, nu suntem decât niște mijloace în procesul obținerii unui profit.

o perspectivă nouă mi-a adus mini-eseul despre călătorii - despre cum anume aeroporturile, trenurile pot fi mijloace, împrejurări de a ne scoate din cotidian. de pildă, rapiditatea zborului ne poate inspira să ne imaginăm că și noi ne-am putea ridica deasupra multor lucruri care ne-au copleșit. (p.27), ne dă perspective zeiești sau vulturești asupra lumii, prezența norilor ne dă gusturi diferite ale mâncării din avion.

Norii aduc liniște. Sub noi se află dușmani și colegi, locurile spaimelor noastre și al necazurilor noastre; toate sunt acum infime, sunt zgârieturii făcute pe pământ. Poate că știm destul de bine această veche lecție de perspectivă, dar rareori pare la fel de adevărată ca atunci când stăm lipiți de fereastra rece a avionului, aeronava noastră, profesor de filozofie profundă. (p.29)

<http://chestiilivresti.blogspot.ro/>

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