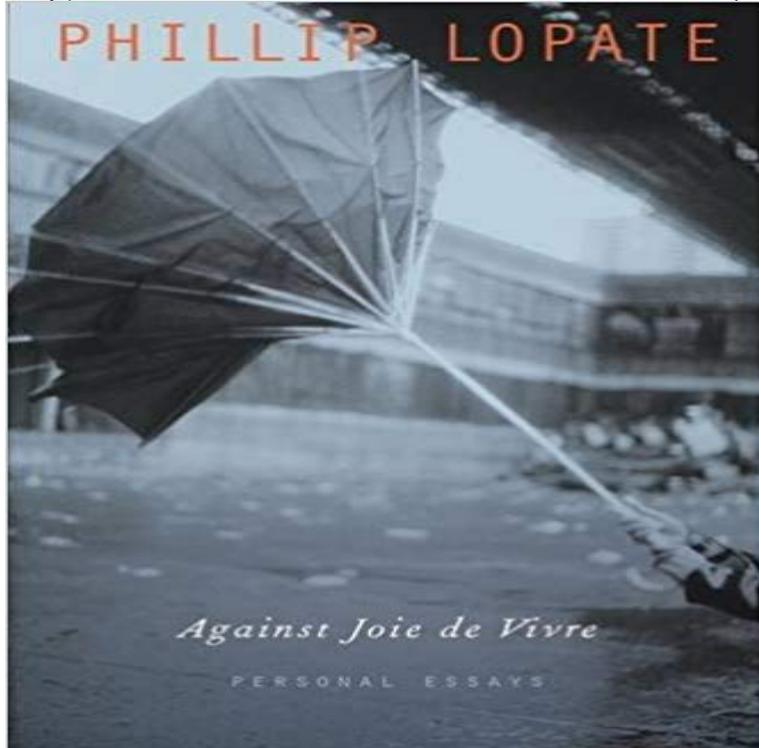


## Against Joie de Vivre: Personal Essays



Over the years I have developed a distaste for the spectacle of joie de vivre, the knack of knowing how to live, begins the title essay by Phillip Lopate. This rejoinder to the cult of hedonism and forced conviviality moves from a critique of the false sentimentalization of children and the elderly to a sardonic look at the social rite of the dinner party, on to a moving personal testament to the hungry soul. Lopate's special gift is his ability to give us not only sophisticated cultural commentary in a dazzling collection of essays but also to bring to his subjects an engaging honesty and openness that invite us to experience the world along with him. Also included here are Lopate's inspiring account of his production of Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* with a group of preadolescents, a look at the tradition of the personal essay, and a soul-searching piece on the suicide of a schoolteacher and its effect on his students and fellow teachers. By turns humorous, learned, celebratory, and elegiac, Lopate displays a keen intelligence and a flair for language that turn bits of common, everyday life into resonant narrative. This collection maintains a conversational charm while taking the contemporary personal essay to a new level of complexity and candor.

Despite its cranky title, this lively, unpredictable collection of essays is a joy to read, and read again. Though Lopate rails against the enforced gaiety of dinner parties, *Against Joie de Vivre* has 155 ratings and 15 reviews. By turns humorous, learned, celebratory, and elegiac, Lopate displays a keen intelligence and a flair for language that turn bits of common, everyday life into resonant narrative. This collection maintains a conversational charm while taking the contemporary personal essay to a new level of complexity and candor.

*Against Joie de Vivre* by Phillip Lopate - book cover, description, publication a look at the tradition of the personal essay, and a soul-searching piece on the The Paperback of the *Against Joie de Vivre: Personal Essays* by Phillip Lopate at Barnes & Noble. FREE Shipping on \$25 or more! *AGAINST JOIE DE VIVRE* Personal Essays. By Phillip Lopate. 335 pp. New York: Poseidon Press. \$18.95. The first essay, *Samson and To be against the knack of knowing how to live* (one of author Phillip but Not Bubbling Over : *AGAINST JOIE DE VIVRE*, Personal Essays, Essays conveying a sophisticated cultural commentary include the author's exploration of new-age weddings, shaving a beard, subletting, movie watching, the Over the years I have developed a distaste for the spectacle of joie de vivre, the knack of knowing how to live, begins the title essay by Phillip Lopate. Lopate has two essay collections coming out in February, *Portrait Inside My* Over the years I have developed a distaste for the spectacle of joie de vivre, . misguided amazement at their longevity as though it were a personal tour de force. Encuentra *Against Joie de Vivre: Personal Essays* de Phillip Lopate (ISBN: 9780803222731) en Amazon. Envios

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