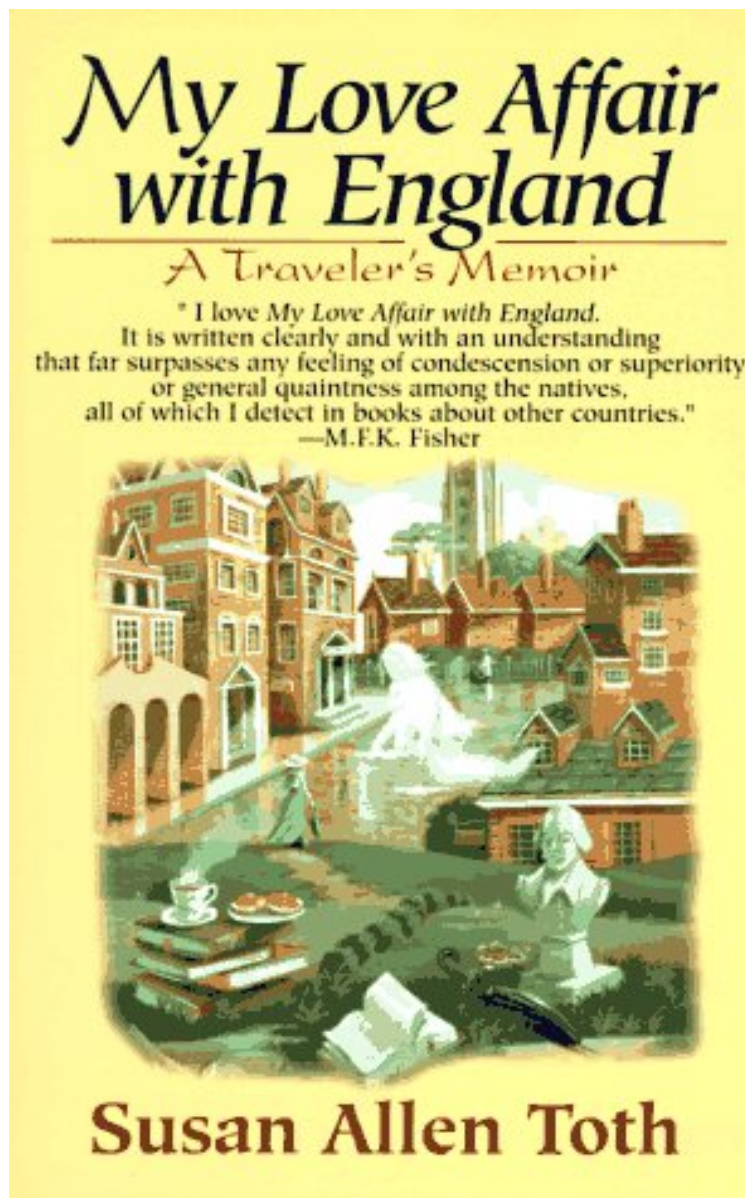


(Download pdf ebook) My Love Affair with England: A Traveler's Memoir

My Love Affair with England: A Traveler's Memoir

Susan Allen Toth

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Susan Allen Toth : My Love Affair with England: A Traveler's Memoir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Love Affair with England: A Traveler's Memoir:

21 of 21 people found the following review helpful. Especially for confirmed Anglophiles By audrey frances I loved this book. Having had several Brits recommend Bill Bryson books the last time I was in Britain, I was disappointed

that he was rather whine-y and not all that funny. Susan Allen Toth, however, is a kindred spirit. I enjoyed reminiscing based on our shared experiences (the love of English footpaths, and Britain's lovely breakfasts and teas) and look forward to my next trip and trying some of the things I had not experienced before, such as omelettes and gardens. I have travelled to other places and enjoyed them very much, but there is something special about England. This author has a gift for articulating those special qualities. I found myself smiling often as I read these pages and drinking more tea than usual. I would say that this book would be more enjoyable for someone who has already been to England rather than someone who is trying to plan their first visit there. I can't wait to get back to the U.K. -- or to read Ms. Toth's next book -- and I would like the people of Britain to read this book and see that *this*, rather than Bryson's, vision is the one I carry for their lovely isle. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very enjoyable little book. I breezed through it, ...By bedwyrVery enjoyable little book. I breezed through it, devoured the whole thing in just a couple of sittings. Brought back so many of my own trips to the British Isles, so many years ago! 17 of 18 people found the following review helpful. A Good Companion for Armchair Traveling By Antoinette Klein If you're dreaming of seeing England but won't make it this year, pick up this cleverly written little book instead. Susan Toth's witty, conversational tone makes for an easy, enjoyable read. But don't confuse it with a travel book. This is instead a journal of Ms. Toth's many trips abroads from her adventurous back-packing with a friend at age 20 to the disastrous honeymoon with her first husband to her exploration of gorgeous gardens with her second husband. Reading this book is akin to traveling with a good friend and sharing likes and dislikes. However, the England that Susan Toth really loves is the countryside and not the bustling London. If London is your heart's desire, you might be better off with another choice. Ms. Toth is not one to stand in line to view the Crown Jewels, but she will take you to memorable sheep dog shows or on a badger hunt. My favorite chapters were those she did set in London and its environs when she was teaching a class abroad. She definitely whetted my appetite for travel with her allusions to the places dear to Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, Oscar Wilde and other literary figures. This is a book to put you in the mood for England, a diary-like remembrance of her many trips to a country she loves. But it alone won't help you plan a trip there. For more on London proper for the book-lover, I would suggest "Mystery Reader's Walking Guide: London" by Alzina Stone Dale and Barbara Sloan Hendershott.

Journalist and memoirist Susan Allen Toth brings her special England vividly to life as she recalls her many trips there over the years, where she explored the countryside, traveled both second-class and in luxury, theatre-hopped, hunted for ghosts, and honeymooned. Humorous, bittersweet, and wonderfully eccentric, this is a delightful remembrance to be savored by those who love to travel or just dream of it. "I love MY LOVE AFFAIR WITH ENGLAND. It is written clearly and with a understanding that far supasses any feeling of condescension or superiority or general quaintness among the natives, all of which I detect in books about other countries." M.F.K. Fisher

From Publishers Weekly Toth (Blooming) makes no apologies here for her lack of authority about English history or current affairs; she is not ashamed to admit that she has ventured little beyond literary London and England's most picturesque locales; and she disdains what she calls the "Bleak Chic" school of British travel writing. But then, this is not a travel memoir in the modern sense, fashioned for hardened realists. Without a trace of irony, Toth writes of the "lure of England's many-layered past" and the reverence felt by every English major, present or former, when walking down streets well known to Dickens. She is spot-on in explaining why English marmalade tastes good only when eaten as part of a real English breakfast--"the tangy flavor puts just the right edge on a slathery, swimming-in-fat breakfast of bacon, sausage and fried eggs." Toth's descriptive powers and her almost Victorian sense of sentiment occasionally wear thin, especially in the sections where she deals with her recent visits. But she is in top form when she recounts her travels as a Smith student in 1960 and 10 years later as a harried guide for touring students. At these and many other points, the book feels wonderfully cozy--the print equivalent of a nice cup of tea. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Over the last 30 years, Toth has regularly vacationed or taught in England. Here, she reflects on some of the country's endearing qualities that draw her back time and again. Each of the 20 chapters addresses a single subject from the intricacies of "the tube" to remote village churches. She is a frequent admirer of the many English gardens and has traveled extensively on the footpaths in the company of her husband and her favorite walking stick. Whether her topic is attending sheepdog trials, ghost-hunting, or indulging in a rare overnight at London's Savoy, one cannot help but become absorbed. Toth possesses the all-too-rare ability of capturing the atmosphere of places she visits. Reading this is like taking a vacation; it's travel writing at its best and essential for armchair travelers or potential visitors. -Jo-Anne Mary Benson, Osgoode, Ontario Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the Inside Flap Journalist and memoirist Susan Allen Toth brings her special England vividly to life as she recalls her many trips there over the years, where she explored the countryside, traveled both second-class and in luxury, theatre-hopped, hunted for ghosts, and honeymooned. Humorous, bittersweet, and wonderfully eccentric, this is a delightful remembrance to be savored by those who love to travel or just dream of it. "I love MY LOVE AFFAIR WITH ENGLAND. It is written clearly and with a understanding that far supasses any feeling of condescension or superiority or general quaintness among the natives, all of which I detect in books about other

countries."M.F.K. Fisher