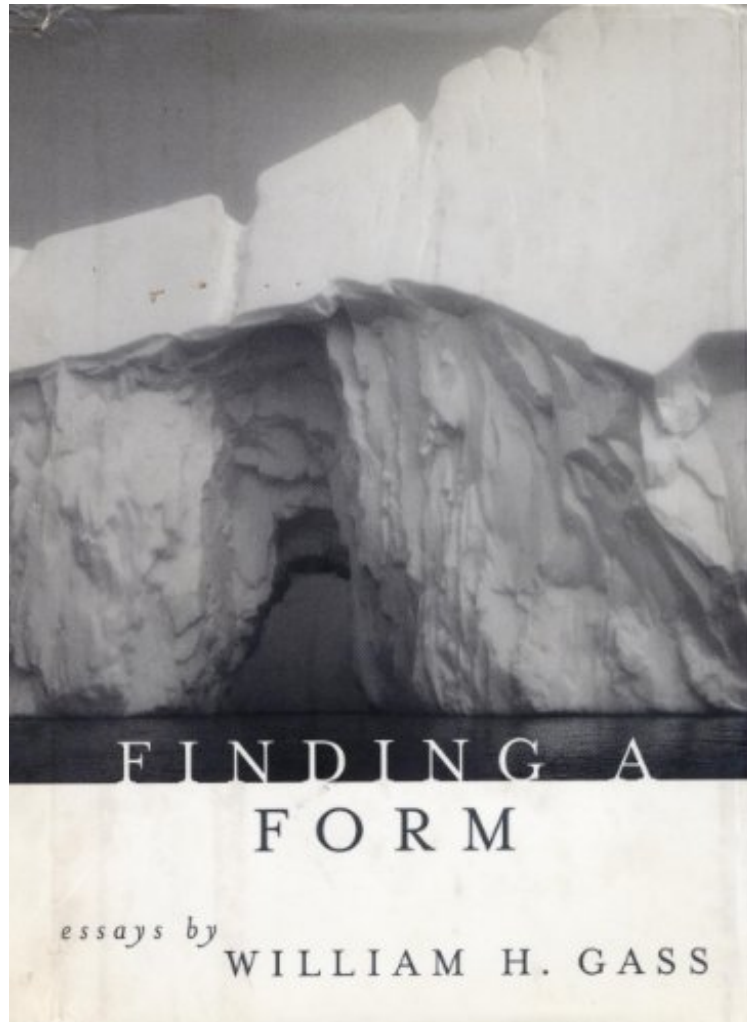


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Finding a Form: Essays

Von William H. Gass

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Von William H. Gass : Finding a Form: Essays before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Finding a Form: Essays:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Yiiich.Von Quinn NobleGass is so cutesy he makes me puke. He consciously seeks to be "postmodern." Every sentence is an occasion for another metaphor which serves only to prove how good Gass is at coming up with unusual metaphors. When he reviews the works of others, he preens himself on enjoying their "subtleties" like any 4th-rate critic. Ick, ick, what a pri__!The ideas behind the writing are nothing new. Basically the modern world has embraced TV and other media and abandoned literature, and Billy isn't too happy about this. Well, Billy, the philistines aren't listening to you. They can't even understand you. That's why they're philistines. Genuinely strong spirits don't need you to tell them.His sentences strike defeatist-defiant and heroical-stoical poses; seldom could I find any genuine

enthusiasm for any pleasure simple or complex. It's all forced and repulsive. For genuine thought-poetry, read the Philosophical Investigations of Wittgenstein, not this literary pretender. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Music of Gass Von Customer For anyone tired with the last fifteen years of "hip" postmodernism, this is an inspiring collection of darkly comic and seriously focussed essays ranging from the dilemma of language and meaning to the innanity of literary prizes (which is especially juicy and hostile due to the fact that Gass, in the ranks of Pynchon, Gaddis, Reed, Coover and Ashberry, has never won one). Gass's prose cranks up the brain with lightening quickness, exercising synapses that haven't seen this much attention since German romantic criticism. He explores the epiphanies of recognition much differntly than the contemporary semioticians and psychanalysers because he expands his own inquiries in a playful use of language that demonstrates rather than deconstructs. Gass may not be our Walter Benjamin, but in an American literary landscape reluctant to relax and break wind he is our flatulator par excellence.

Kurzbeschreibung From the author of The Tunnel comes a new collection of essays, his first in eight years, on art, writing, nature and culture. This book is by one of the most important and brilliant thinkers at work today. Pressestimmen "Reading these essays is like watching a glass blower at work over the flame, seeing his forms emerge at times amusing trinkets, at times vessels of beauty and purpose. . . . The vases of Mr. Gass's making (something like extruded golden bowls with nearly undetectable flaws) would be in such a thoughtful essay as 'The Story of the State of Nature, ' in which he mounts, in clear expository fashion, an entire history of narrative." Maureen Howard, New York Times Book ""Gass's commitment to ideas, concentrated energy and originality shine through on every page. . . . These pieces deal with Ezra Pound as a failed modernist; the lives of Nietzsche and Wittgenstein in relation to their thought; various species of the avant-garde from Pierre de Ronsard to Degas, Beckett and the Bauhaus; the exacting demands of autobiography; the Pulitzer Prize Committee's 'banal and hokey' choices in fiction; and the abyss between the moral viewpoints expressed in works of art and the lives of their creators. Gass's deeply felt essays . . . are quotable, flecked with fertile insights and a pleasure to read." Publishers Weekly (starred review) ""These essays showcase precision intellectual workmanship, displaying intricate multifaceted models of how writing and thinking relate to life." Kirkus s "Kurzbeschreibung From the author of The Tunnel comes a new collection of essays, his first in eight years, on art, writing, nature and culture. This book is by one of the most important and brilliant thinkers at work today.