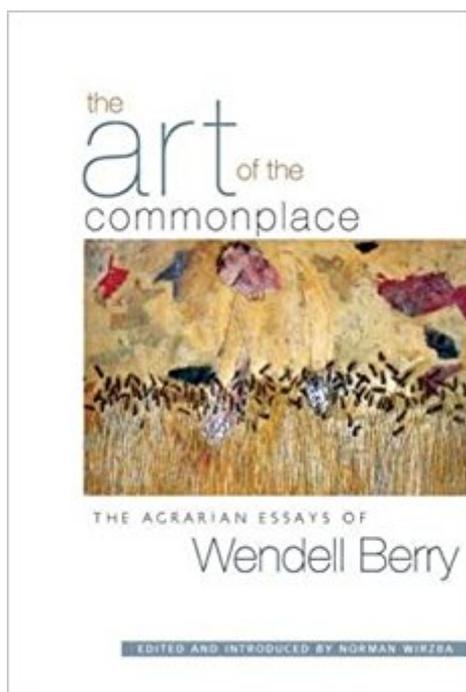


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The Art Of The Commonplace: The Agrarian Essays Of Wendell Berry



Synopsis

"Here is a human being speaking with calm and sanity out of the wilderness. We would do well to hear him."—The Washington Post Book World

Art of the Commonplace gathers twenty essays by Wendell Berry that offer an agrarian alternative to our dominant urban culture. Grouped around five themes—an agrarian critique of culture, agrarian fundamentals, agrarian economics, agrarian religion, and geo-biography—these essays promote a clearly defined and compelling vision important to all people dissatisfied with the stress, anxiety, disease, and destructiveness of contemporary American culture. Why is agriculture becoming culturally irrelevant, and at what cost? What are the forces of social disintegration and how might they be reversed? How might men and women live together in ways that benefit both? And, how does the corporate takeover of social institutions and economic practices contribute to the destruction of human and natural environments? Through his staunch support of local economies, his defense of farming communities, and his call for family integrity, Berry emerges as the champion of responsibilities and priorities that serve the health, vitality and happiness of the whole community of creation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Here is a human being speaking with calm and sanity out of the wilderness. We would do well to hear him."

Berrys themes are reflections of his life: friends, family, the farm, the nature around us as well as within. He speaks strongly for himself and sometimes for the lost heart of the country. As he has

borne witness to the world for eight decades, what he offers us now in this new collection of poems is of incomparable value. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Wendell Berry is very strange. I was frankly uninterested when I heard about him. He sounded boring and extreme about topics unimportant. However, upon reading this collection of essays, I found quite the opposite. They are rich, yes strange and unique, but ringing with truth. He addresses many issues, and his solution is often the agrarian lifestyle. This book is thought provoking and virtue shaping. I recommend this to anyone who believes there is truth and searches for it.

awesome book great value

An antidote to the thoughtless uniformity of the industrial economy

Reading *The Art of the Common Place* is serving as my introduction to the writings of Wendell Berry. I usually don't bother to write reviews for what I read, but I am making an exception here because this e-book is full of typos. Be becomes he frequently. Corn becomes com etc. I hope some work is done to improve the e-book, especially since Berry writes so eloquently about producing things of quality.

This thinker's economic ideas are well worth your consideration. In fact, if you take him seriously, he could well change your life and you could become a more thoughtful and eco-friendly citizen. He readily admits that he doesn't have all the answers but he is serious about preserving the world that God has given us.

This book should be standard reading on every college campus and in every hall of power in America. Mr. Berry cuts through the branches and strikes at the root cause of our nation's moral decline; and he does so in a beautiful, eloquent, and poetic way. This book is a life changer.

Easily the best collection of essays on U.S. society I've ever read. And no partisan jibber-jabber! Berry has found a way to calmly discuss these things that transcends mere politics. A must-read. PS: I've been an avid reader on societal matters for 30+ years, if that helps.

Reading this book for my dissertation... every page is like a well deserved slap in the face to our

society and culture, but a constructive one that resigns neither to helplessness nor hopelessness. Definitely a must-read! With every page it feels like another layer of a veil is lifted, and the reality of our condition (what should have been obvious all along) is made abundantly clear.

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