



The Meaning of Culture

John Cowper Powys

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'Mr. Powys is to be congratulated on having written a book of the kind that most needs writing and most deserves to be read...Here in a dozen chapters of eloquent and glowing prose, Mr. Powys describes for every reader that citadel which is himself, and explains to him how it maybe strengthened and upheld and on what terms it is most worth upholding.. The virtue of his book is that it is freshly and clearly focussed to meet the present situation to encourage and establish developing experience in growing minds' Manchester Guardian

The Meaning of Culture Details

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Author : John Cowper Powys

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From Reader Review The Meaning of Culture for online ebook

Lynda says

This was the first book like this I read. I was in junior high. It was a difficult read the first time, but I went back to it often. This book has had a profound effect on my life and attitudes.

Richard says

This isn't just a book about culture, it's a profound guide to life. It's a great and beautiful book in parts, very rich, full of ideas, and wisdom. Certain chapters in the second half of the book, on Nature, reading, and love, rank among the best things ever written in my view, with many paragraphs similar to the beautiful passages found in his fiction. He is weaker where his knowledge or insight is less, such as philosophy, and he says very little about music.

The Meaning of Culture is also essential in understanding JC Powys' fiction, particularly Wolf Solent, which was completed around the same time, as the attitudes of the main character, and even the way the book is written, reflects much of TMOG. He's a fully mature writer at this point, with far less of the quiriness of his earlier writing on similar topics.

This book was very popular when it came out, and a new edition was done ten years after its release with an introduction and conclusion. It was particularly popular in Sweden.

Anyway, this gets my highest recommendation, especially to my fellow sensitive readers out there who are looking for a life guide. I found it far more applicable to my life than any other "life guide" out there. There are passages that will stick with you and make you happy.

Heather Fryling says

The Meaning of Culture is an old fashioned guide to personal development through reading and the appreciation of the arts. It illustrates for me what Susan Cain describes as the culture of character, the old school of self-help that championed inner development, rather than our modern self-help culture of personality, where we emphasize enthusiasm and charisma.
