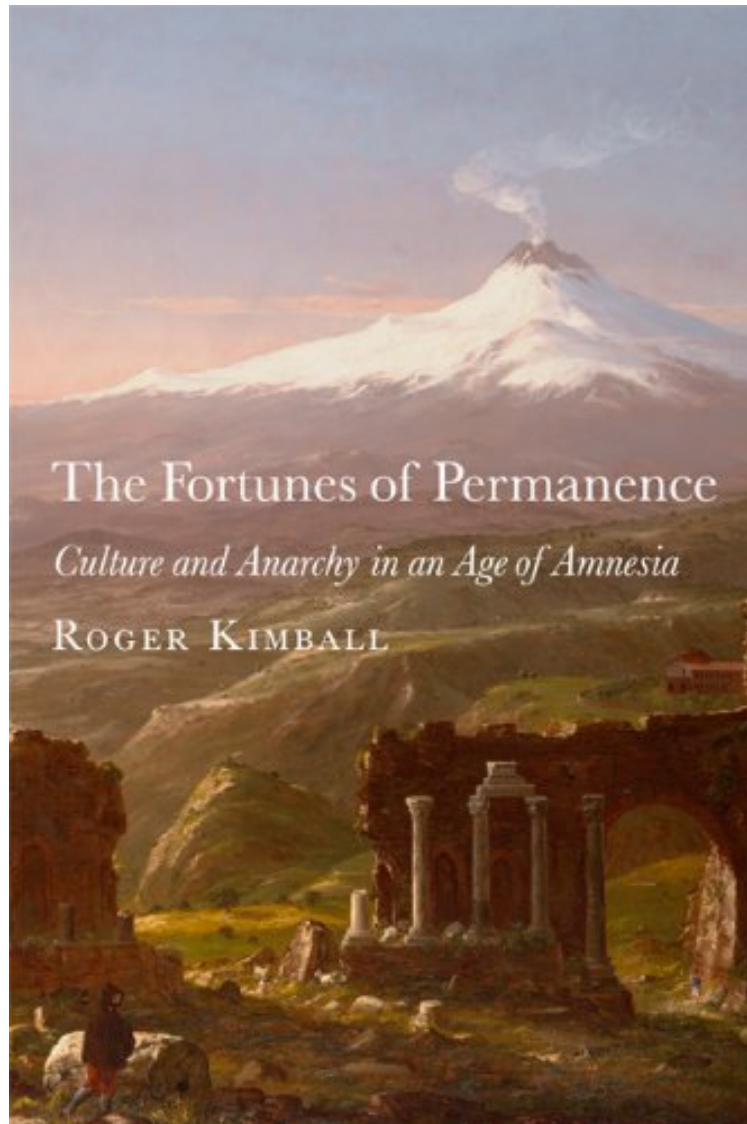


[Free pdf] The Fortunes of Permanence: Culture and Anarchy in an Age of Amnesia

The Fortunes of Permanence: Culture and Anarchy in an Age of Amnesia

Roger Kimball

*audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#687021 in Books St. Augustines Press 2012-06-30Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x 1.30 x 6.00l, 1.55 #File Name: 1587312565360 pages | File size: 36.Mb

Roger Kimball : The Fortunes of Permanence: Culture and Anarchy in an Age of Amnesia before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fortunes of Permanence: Culture and Anarchy in an Age of Amnesia:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy John LuppesA+0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Easily my favorite read of the yearBy Christopher OttEasily my favorite read of the year. The Fortunes

of Permanence is an amalgam of art, culture, and philosophical discourse. Kimball resists the reflexive temptation to bifurcate the "present" and the "past" thus liberating himself (and the reader) to become beneficiaries of Western Civilization's entire menu. In the chapter entitled "Leszek Kolakowski the Anatomy of Totalitarianism", Kimball says of Kolakowski: "It would be an injustice, however, if this impressive inventory were to obscure one of Kolakowski's most conspicuous gifts: I mean his sense of humor." It is a point equally befitting of Kimball himself. Just one example, Kimball visits an "art" exhibition at liberal Bard college. Having had the displeasure of attending 4 similar institutions (hey, I was a lib!) and growing up in Stamford CT (breeding ground for Dylan's Heathers... see Fortunes), I found Kimball's misadventure and subsequent wry analysis both side-splitting and healing. (my first love was from Brooklyn. A fresh-faced 16 year old suburbanite I used to take the Metro North to visit her. We broke-up following a fated visit to.... BARD!) Kimball's coda is an ode to the English language. Kimball admits he cannot distill the exact correlation between the English language and the success of Anglosphere; all the more respect to Kimball. Perhaps, that is the upper ceiling of the English language, high-art, and man itself. Reason offers us all means of articulation until we reach a hole too small for the baggy human intellect to pass-through. Thus the baton must be passed from the mind to the heart. *la coeur a ses raisons que la raison ne connait point*^{3 of 4} people found the following review helpful. Affords (Perhaps Unintentionally) an Excellent Perspective on Our Culture's Crumbling from Its Corruption By K. R. Mudgeon The author provides a superb portrait of what used to be known as Western Civilization and how it has lost faith in itself and the values that created it and made it great (as well as dominant). The book starts slowly but improves as one persists in reading it, and the effort is well worthwhile. And I say this even though I disagree with the author, who is far more optimistic about the prospects for revival and restoration of our culture than I believe is warranted.

Cultural instructions. Everyone who has handled a package of seedlings has encountered that enigmatic advisory. This much water and that much sun, certain tips about fertilizer, soil, and drainage. Planting one sort of flower nearby keeps the bugs away but proximity to another sort makes bad things happen. Young shoots might need stakes, and watch out for beetles, weeds, and unseasonable frosts. It's a complicated business. But at least since Cicero introduced the term *cultura animi* (cultivation of the mind or spirit), such cultural instructions have applied as much to the realm of civilization as to horticulture. In this wide-ranging investigation into the vicissitudes of culture in the twenty-first century, the distinguished critic Roger Kimball traces the deep filiations between cultivation as a spiritual enterprise and the prerequisites of political freedom. Drawing on figures as various as James Burnham, Richard Weaver, G. K. Chesterton, Rudyard Kipling, John Buchan, Friedrich von Hayek, and Leszek Kolakowski, Kimball traces the interconnections between what he calls the fortunes of permanence and such ambassadors of anarchy as relativism, multiculturalism, and the socialist-utopian imperative. With his signature blend of wit and erudition, Kimball deftly draws on the resources of art, literature, and political philosophy to illuminate some of the wrong turns and dead ends our culture has recently pursued, while also outlining some of the simple if overlooked alternatives to the various tyrannies masquerading as liberation we have again and again fallen prey to. This rich, rewarding, and intelligent volume bristles with insights into what the nineteenth-century novelist Anthony Trollope called *The Way We Live Now*. Partly an exercise in cultural pathology, *The Fortunes of Permanence* is also a forward-looking effort of cultural recuperation. It promises to be essential reading for anyone concerned about the direction of Western culture in an age of anti-Western animus and destructive multicultural fantasy.