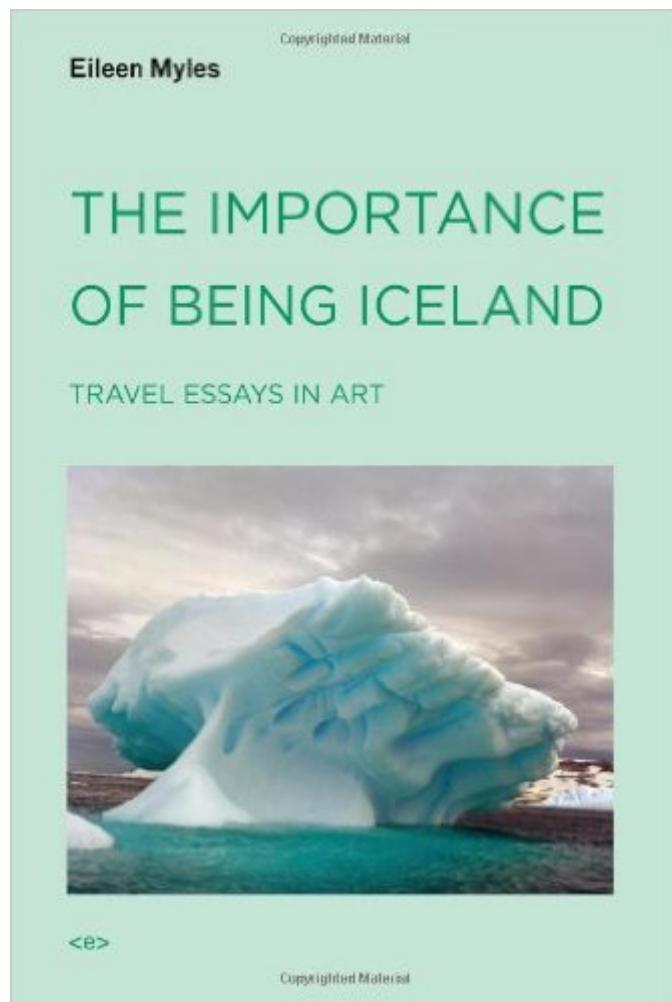


The book was found

The Importance Of Being Iceland: Travel Essays In Art (Semiotext(e) / Active Agents)



Synopsis

Poet and post-punk heroine Eileen Myles has always operated in the art, writing, and queer performance scenes as a kind of observant flaneur. Like Baudelaire's gentleman stroller, Myles travels the city--wandering on garbage-strewn New York streets in the heat of summer, drifting though the antiseptic malls of La Jolla, and riding in the van with Sister Spit--seeing it with a poet's eye for detail and with the consciousness that writing about art and culture has always been a social gesture. Culled by the poet from twenty years of art writing, the essays in *The Importance of Being Iceland* make a lush document of her--and our--lives in these contemporary crowds. Framed by Myles's account of her travels in Iceland, these essays posit inbetweenness as the most vital position from which to perceive culture as a whole, and a fluidity in national identity as the best model for writing and thinking about art and culture. The essays include fresh takes on Thoreau's Cape Cod walk, working class speech, James Schulyer and Björk, queer Russia and Robert Smithson; how-tos on writing an avant-garde poem and driving a battered Japanese car that resembles a menopausal body; and opinions on such widely ranging subjects as filmmaker Sadie Benning, actor Daniel Day-Lewis, Ted Berrigan's Sonnets, and flossing.

Book Information

Series: Semiotext(e) / Active Agents

Paperback: 368 pages

Publisher: Semiotext(e); Semiotext edition (June 5, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1584350660

ISBN-13: 978-1584350668

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #384,162 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > European > Norse & Icelandic Sagas #635 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Literature > American Literature #1676 inÂ Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > United States

Customer Reviews

In an odd way, I could see myself in many of the essays in this collection. Like me, Eileen Myles has been exposed to all walks of life and has tried many new, sometimes surprising things. Obviously at

my young age my understanding of the world and outlook is much more simple and immature than Eileen's, but her very real description of all her ventures is refreshing to a simple person like myself. If I was ever to become a writer this is the kind of writing I think I would enjoy most. I also enjoyed the variety of essays- from travel pieces to encounters with friends and family and lovers. One of my favorite lines to read was the first line of Everyday Barf- "I don't mind today, but the everyday makes me barf" (Myles 163). In Everyday Barf, Eileen essentially describes various situations in which she has experienced barfing. But the first line is very true- today is just fine and yesterday was fine and tomorrow will probably be fine, but everyday for the rest of my life sounds like a lot of work. To look at things on a large, infinite scale is a lot more sickening than focusing on tasks at hand. Another essay I enjoyed was Sarah's Smoke- I mostly enjoyed the ending. Sarah tells Eileen she never has smoked, but that it looks great. Eileen describes that "she laughs at a vice untried" (Myles 89). I have more of an understanding about addiction and various vices than most would suspect- so I thought this line was endearing in a way. Sarah doesn't smoke, but she knows she would love it if she tried it. The essay that struck me the most as a whole was "Live Through That?!" in which Eileen discusses life through flossing. Eileen flosses her teeth to avoid losing them like her dad did before his early death.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Importance of Being Iceland: Travel Essays in Art (Semiotext(e) / Active Agents) Heroines (Semiotext(e) / Active Agents) Paris Travel Guide - Paris Travel: The Ultimate Guide to Travel to Paris on a Cheap Budget: (Honeymoon in Paris, Paris Travel Guide, Travel on a Budget, Save Money) Barcelona Travel Guide: Barcelona, Spain: Travel Guide Book-A Comprehensive 5-Day Travel Guide to Barcelona, Spain & Unforgettable Spanish Travel (Best Travel Guides to Europe Series Book 10) London Travel Guide: London, England: Travel Guide Book-A Comprehensive 5-Day Travel Guide to London, England & Unforgettable English Travel (Best Travel Guides to Europe Series Book 9) Florence Travel Guide: Florence and Tuscany, Italy: Travel Guide Book-A Comprehensive 5-Day Travel Guide to Florence + Tuscany, Italy & Unforgettable Italian ... Travel Guides to Europe Series Book 3) NEW ZEALAND: The Ultimate Travel Guide and 125 Travel Tips You Must Know Box Set (New Zealand Travel Guide, New Zealand Travel) Round walled graveyards and churches in Iceland, Greenland and possibly in Rhode Island.: Were there Round walled graveyards and churches in Rhode Island like in Iceland and Greenland. The Importance of Being Earnest (Norton Critical Editions) IRELAND: The Ultimate Travel Guide and 125 Travel Tips You Must Know Box Set (Ireland, Ireland Travel Guide, Ireland Guide) NEW ZEALAND: The Ultimate Travel Guide With Essential Tips About What To See, Where To Go, Eat And Sleep (New

Zealand Travel Guide, New Zealand Travel) Jeff Herman's Guide to Book Publishers, Editors and Literary Agents: Who They Are, What They Want, How to Win Them Over (Jeff Herman's Guide to Book Editors, Publishers, and Literary Agents) Questions of Travel: William Morris in Iceland Iceland Travel Reference Map 1:400,000- 2015 Active Directory: Designing, Deploying, and Running Active Directory The Complete Works of Stephen Crane (12 Complete Works of Stephen Crane Including The Red Badge of Courage, Maggie - A Girl of the Streets, Active Service, The O'Ruddy, Active Service, And More) Essays That Will Get You into Medical School (Essays That Will Get You Into...Series) [Second Edition] (Barron's Essays That Will Get You Into Medical School) To Our Friends (Semiotext(e) / Intervention Series) The Coming Insurrection (Semiotext(e) / Intervention Series) The Complete Three Books of The Treatise of Human Nature: Being An AttemptÃ To Introduce The Experimental Method of Reasoning Into Moral Subjects (With Active Table of Contents)

[Dmca](#)