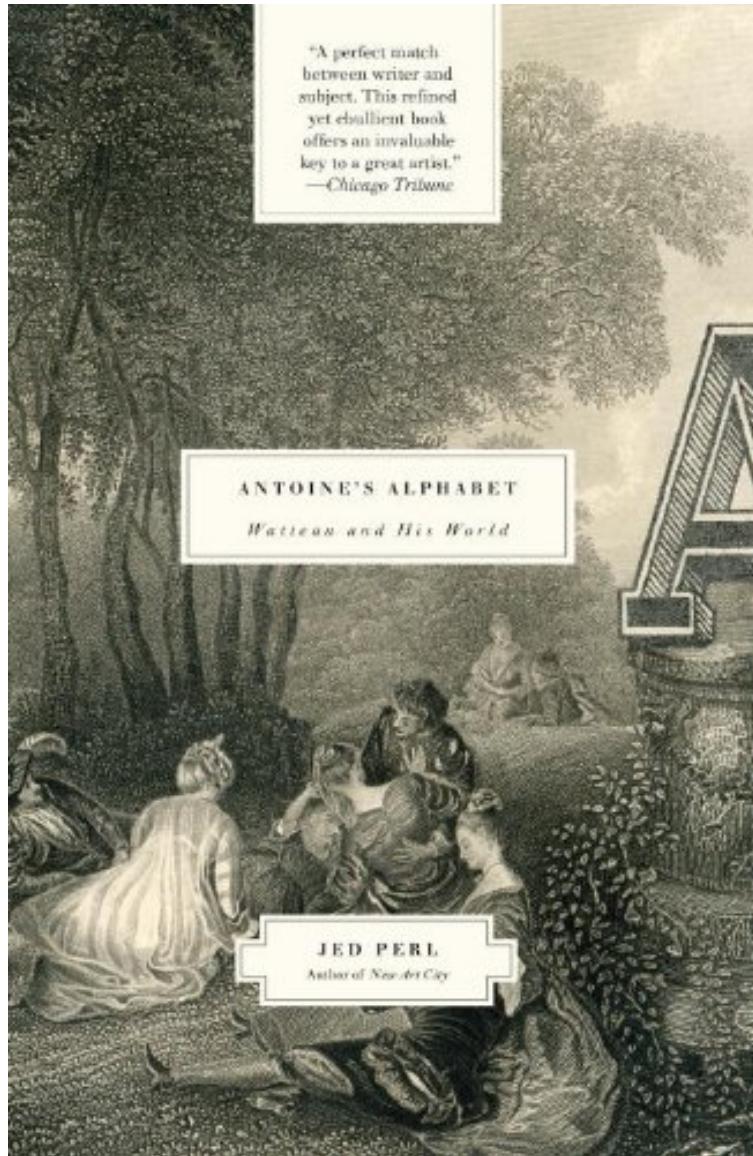


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Antoine's Alphabet

Jed Perl

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Jed Perl : Antoine's Alphabet before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Antoine's Alphabet:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Art book full of wonder!By scalperOriginal purchase was a fluke - trying to figure out wife's best painting-series I happened upon this book at going out of bs sale. After reading, passed it on to wife who also fell in love with author's unique word-picture narrative like we have never experienced. Bought another to pass on to scholarly neighbor and his wife and plan to purchase more for same reason. Read this work of art and expand your world of the meaning of art. This author has written an art critique like none I have ever read. it is

much more than a work on art or artist. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful writingBy J. GoinsPerl illuminates so many things in so many different ways. There's really no one else writing like him. This is a great appreciation of an artist I had paid little attention to but because it's Perl writing, I'm thoroughly taken with it. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. What a fascinating little book...By Interested in EverythingI bought this book a few years ago on a whim (from) while trawling the site...and I love it. I love the(physical) book, itself, as much as its content, which is clever,stimulating,thought provoking very intelligent.The book is small and precise and sports a beautiful cover painting by Watteau. What a marvelous gift for the person with everything. Worry no more. *JTQ

Antoine Watteau, one of the most mysterious painters who ever lived, is the inspiration for this delightful investigation of the tangled relationship between art and life. Weaving together historical fact and personal reflections, the influential art critic Jed Perl reconstructs the amazing story of this pioneering bohemian artist who, although he died in 1721, when he was only thirty-six, has influenced innumerable painters and writers in the centuries sincemdash;and whose work continues to deepen our understanding of the place that love, friendship, and pleasure have in our daily lives. Perl creates an astonishing experience by gathering his reflections on this ldquo;master of silken surfaces and elusive emotionsrdquo; in the form of an alphabetmdash;a fairy tale for adultsmdash;giving us a new way to think about art. This brilliant collage of a book is a hunt for the treasure of Watteau's life and vision that encompasses the glamour and intrigue of eighteenth-century Paris, the riotous history of Harlequin and Pierrot, and the work of such modern giants as Ceacute;zanne, Picasso, and Samuel Beckett. By turns somber and beguiling, analytical and impressionistic, Antoinersquo;s Alphabet reaffirms the contemporary relevance of the greatest of all painters of young love and imperishable dreams. It is a book to savor, to share, to return to again and again.