



Forty-One False Starts: Essays on Artists and Writers

By Janet Malcolm

Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 320 pages. Dimensions: 8.2in. x 5.3in. x 0.9in.A National Book Critics Circle Finalist for CriticismA deeply Malcolmian volume on painters, photographers, writers, and critics. Janet Malcolms In the Freud Archives and The Journalist and the Murderer, as well as her books about Sylvia Plath and Gertrude Stein, are canonical in the realm of nonfictionas is the title essay of this collection, with its forty-one false starts, or serial attempts to capture the essence of the painter David Salle, which becomes a dazzling portrait of an artist. Malcolm is among the most intellectually provocative of authors, writes David Lehman in The Boston Globe, able to turn epiphanies of perception into explosions of insight. Here, in Forty-one False Starts, Malcolm brings together essays published over the course of several decades (largely in The New Yorker and The New York Review of Books) that reflect her preoccupation with artists and their work. Her subjects are painters, photographers, writers, and critics. She explores Bloomsburys obsessive desire to create things visual and literary; the passionate collaborations behind Edward Westons nudes; and the character of the German art photographer Thomas Struth, who is haunted by the Nazi...



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