

Barbara Kay

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Sorry I did not get back to you. I did start to read the book, but there does not seem to be a thesis I can get my teeth into. I read the whole introduction without really understanding what you were getting at intellectually. I had to give up on it. Very sorry indeed, as I can see you have put a great deal of feeling and conviction into it. It is not however a book I can recommend for the average reader, as I myself did not find it coherent. I hope you have better luck with other readers. Barb

Rod, if you had come to me with this book in manuscript form I would have told you right off the bat that you can't go on and on for pages talking about your own thoughts and feelings without positing an actual theory, and suggesting how you are going to prove it with facts and evidence. I read many pages and had no idea what your actual theory was. It's kind of a late stage to give advice when the book is already published. It is more an interior monologue than a well-argued and supportive thesis. B

I think focusing on the emotional is fine if you draw a conclusion from it. As I said, the preface has to point to a thesis and I could not make out what you were trying to say. When there is a lack of coherence at the beginning, there is no motivation to go on, or that was how it seemed to me. I agree it is too late for a debate on what might have been. B

Rod, I am sorry, I am not reviewing the book, and I am not post-editing. I did look briefly at some of the later writing, and it is not what I call intellectually coherent or at the level in general of books I review. I am trying to be diplomatic here. It is not a question of fixing this or that paragraph. I am really sorry, but you'll have to look elsewhere for help on this. B