

# THE POWER OF ART

Olivia Laing explores sorrow, loneliness, art, and much more in her memoir: 'In The Lonely City: Adventures in the Art of Being Alone'

"There are so many things that art can't do. It can't bring the dead back to life, it can't mend arguments between friends, or cure AIDS, or halt the pace of climate change. All the same, it does have some extraordinary functions, some odd negotiating ability between people, including people who never meet and yet who infiltrate and enrich each other's lives. It does have a capacity to create intimacy; it does have a way of healing wounds, and better yet of making it apparent that not all wounds need healing and not all scars are ugly.

If I sound adamant it is because I am speaking from personal experience. When I came to New York I was in pieces, and though it sounds perverse, the way I recovered a sense of wholeness was not by meeting someone or by falling in love, but rather by handling the things that other people had made, slowly absorbing by way of this contact the fact that loneliness, longing, does not mean one has failed, but simply that one is alive."

# Jitterbug Perfume

A Novel

## Jitterbug Perfume

**A** New York Times bestseller in 1985, Jitterbug Perfume is considerably a modern classic. Though, strange and "impractical" at first glance, the novel develops into a series of lessons for the reader. Author Tom Robbins challenges typical societal views throughout his work, satire at its finest.

**Give this thought a shot.**

"It was then that she realized it was the odor of the incense that had intrigued her all along, only now the smells filled in the fantasies that heretofore had been mere outlines, smeary contours scrawled in ghost chalk. Perhaps the most terrible (or wonderful) thing that can happen to an imaginative youth, aside from the curse (or blessing) of imagination itself, is to be exposed without preparation to the life outside his or her own sphere the sudden revelation that there is a there out there." -Tom Robbins

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# The Teachings of Friedrich Nietzsche

According to German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, failure is just a bump in the road on the path to success. One must learn how to embrace failure rather than avoid it, in order to truly grow and live the fulfilling life of their dreams. He believed that hardship and joy operated in a kind of osmotic relationship and often expressed these views in his body of work, like in his poem 'god is dead' where he noted that the most notable human lives reflected this same osmosis.

“Examine the lives of the best and most fruitful people and peoples and ask yourselves whether a tree that is supposed to grow to a proud height can dispense with bad weather and storms; whether misfortune and external resistance, some kinds of hatred, jealousy, stubbornness, mistrust, hardness, avarice, and violence do not belong among the favorable conditions without which any great growth even of virtue is scarcely possible.”