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A Contrary History of the West, and Other Essays

By Roger Szwed

Sophia Perennis et Universalis, United States, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New ed.. 226 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.What was the purpose of the ancient Greek Olympics? No one really knows. But the first essay in this book examines one early Greek games whose purpose we do know. And that was to cleanse the site of a massacre from a deadly pollution. These games were a periodic ritual to appease the furious dead. And they worked. The second essay looks again at what is due to Caesar. Jesus makes no compromise with the Romans. If the penny was Caesar s, Caesar was Jehovah s. The title essay frames the last thousand years of Western history as a series of political constitutions. We travel backwards in time from the democracies now through plutocracy, aristocracy and theocracy to the first millennium. It is a contrary history because it goes backwards and because it argues that people s lives in those earlier times were usually better than ours in one vital respect. Other essays provide a metaphysical basis for the professions, demonstrate the intellectual power of John Keats, and argue that the Laws of Gravity are...



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