

(Mobile book) Why Beer Matters

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Evan Rail

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Evan Rail : Why Beer Matters before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Why Beer Matters:

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. What matters most about beer is...By J. Chambers In his short essay, "Why Beer Matters," author Evan Rail writes with both fervor and expertise about what beer means to him and

why beer matters. He notes the obvious attractions of beer - "the sugar rush of malt, the fragrant flavors of hops, and the elemental calm of alcohol," but he goes a bit deeper into the subject. Inevitably, he compares beer with wine, but the differences go well beyond taste or alcohol content. The finest (and most expensive) wines are old vintages that the average person cannot afford. Beer, on the other hand, is a more democratic drink, being much less expensive, and a drink that the common man can unabashedly discuss and share his opinions with others. The author points out that beer expresses a strong sense of geography and time, with many beers being brewed and served in only one place and/or during a certain season. The many varieties of beer and the different brewing methods make beer stand out in a world where so many things look and taste the same. Thanks to craft brewing, beer has escaped the sameness that affects so much of what we eat and drink today. The author knows his beer. He relates some fascinating details of beer-making around the world, including efforts to recreate famous beers of the past. In the end, the author concludes that what matters most about beer is... well, you can probably guess the answer. As befits a Kindle Short, the essay is brief--about a half-hour read for most people--with no wasted words. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Still good reading and sipping ...By Robert C RossEvan Rail expresses surprise that his writing didn't have much of a following until he started to write about beer. Now he is surprised at how popular his writings about beer have become -- people recommend that he write about nothing else. I'm not at all surprised. Rail obviously has studied beer carefully for many years, writes clearly and knowledgeably about many aspects of brewing and drinking, and communicates his love for beer with a degree of compassion. A couple of Popular Highlights capture the essence of his essay: "The U.S. was stuck with oceans of boring and similar pale lagers until craft brewing -- and, it has to be said, home brewing -- started to bring greater variety and more dynamic flavors to the glass. ... Being able to say no to this flavorless sameness, to say 'I'll have a rye saison' or 'I'd like a double IPA,' is a vote against the dull grayness of a world where everything tastes the same. It is a call for difference, for variety, for vibrancy. It is a clearly spoken choice for something better." To the same effect: "Beer is a beverage for the age of Yelp and TripAdvisor, an age when individual consumers have a greater say in declaring value, worth and merit." And, my personal favorite: "... [I]t is beer's nature to be carefree and easygoing, to defy intense study and introspection, to just 'have a beer and relax'. ... What matters most about beer is the drinking of it." That sounds awfully good to me! Robert C. Ross May 2012 revised March 2015 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Passionate plea for Beer By C This is an ok book that has some interesting opinions but could have covered more areas and have been so much more.

Over the past few years, there's been an explosion of interest in good beer. As hundreds of great new breweries have opened across the country and around the world, quality ales and lagers have been given an importance never before imagined. Despite beer's renaissance, however, no one seems to have focused on why beer suddenly matters, or what it is about beer that makes it the drink for our age. In this 6,500-word (20-page) personal essay, Evan Rail investigates several compelling aspects of beer beyond its principal role as a great drink, from its very real sense of place to its unusual relationship with the passing of time.

About the Author Evan Rail is the author of three Kindle Singles: "Why We Fly: The Meaning of Travel in a Hyperconnected Age," "In Praise of Hangovers" and "Why Beer Matters," a Kindle Singles bestseller. His writing on food and travel appears regularly in the New York Times, and in such anthologies as "The New York Times Book of Wine," "Travelers' Tales" and "Best Food Writing." His poems and translations have appeared in the New Republic, Poetry, Agni and Zyzzyva, among other publications, and he regularly reviews books about food and drink for the Times Literary Supplement (TLS). He lives in Prague. Evan Rail is the author of three Kindle Singles: "Why We Fly: The Meaning of Travel in a Hyperconnected Age," "In Praise of Hangovers" and "Why Beer Matters," a Kindle Singles bestseller. His writing on food and travel appears regularly in the New York Times, and in such anthologies as "The New York Times Book of Wine," "Travelers' Tales" and "Best Food Writing." His poems and translations have appeared in the New Republic, Poetry, Agni and Zyzzyva, among other publications, and he regularly reviews books about food and drink for the Times Literary Supplement (TLS). He lives in Prague.