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The Joy of Drinking

Barbara Holland

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The Joy of Drinking

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The Joy of Drinking Barbara Holland

With characteristic elegance and delicious wit, Barbara Holland, ("a national treasure,"?*Philadelphia Inquirer*) celebrates the age-old act of drinking in this gimlet-eyed survey of man's relationship with booze, since the joyful discovery, ten thousand years ago, of fermented fruits and grains. In this spirited paean to alcohol, two parts cultural history, one part personal meditation, Holland takes readers on a bacchanalian romp through the Fertile Crescent, the Mermaid Tavern, Plymouth Rock, and Capitol Hill and reveals, as Faulkner famously once said, how civilization indeed begins with fermentation. Filled with tasty tidbits about distillers, bootleggers, taverns, hangovers, and Alcoholics Anonymous, *The Joy of Drinking* is a fascinating portrait of the world of pleasures fermented and distilled.

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