



Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth

Victor Brombert

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth

Victor Brombert

Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth Victor Brombert

"A beautifully cadenced work of art—it will remind some readers of Nabokov's classic *Invitation of a Beethoven*, *Memory*."—Joyce Carol Oates

Paris in the 1930s—melancholy, erotic, intensely politicized—provides the poetic beginning for this remarkable autobiography by one of America's most renowned literary scholars. In *Trains of Thought* Victor Brombert recaptures the story of his youth in a Proustian reverie, recalling, with a rare combination of humor and tenderness, his childhood in France, his family's escape to America during the Vichy regime, his experiences in the U.S. Army from the invasion of Normandy to the occupation of Berlin, and his discovery of his scholarly vocation. In shimmering prose, Brombert evokes his upbringing in Paris's upper-middle-class 16th arrondissement, a world where "the sweetness of things" masked the class tensions and political troubles that threatened the stability of the French democracy. Using the train as a metaphor to describe his personal journey, Brombert recalls his boyhood enchantment with railway travel—even imagining that he had been conceived on a sleeper. But the young Brombert sensed that "the poetry of the railroad also had its darker side, for there was the turmoil of departures, the terror . . . of being pursued by a gigantic locomotive, the nightmare of derailments, or of being trapped in a tunnel." With time, Brombert became acutely aware of the grimmer aspects of life around him—the death of his sister, Nora, on an operating table, the tragic disappearance of his boyhood love, Dany, with her infant child, and the mounting cries of "Sale Juif," or "dirty Jew," that grew from a whisper into a thundering din as the decade drew to a close. The invasion of May 1940 dispelled the optimistic belief, shared by most of the French nation, that the horrors that had descended on Germany could never happen to them. The family was forced to flee from Paris, first to Nice, then to Spain, and finally across the Atlantic on a banana freighter to America. Discovering the excitement of New York, Brombert nonetheless hoped to return to France in an American uniform once the United States entered the war. He joined the U.S. Army in 1943, and soon found himself with General Patton's old "Hell-on-Wheels" division at Omaha Beach, then in Paris at the time of its liberation, and later at the Battle of the Bulge. The final chapter concludes with Brombert's return to America, his enrollment at Yale University, and the beginning of a literary voyage whose origins are poignantly captured in this coming-of-age story. *Trains of Thought* is a virtuosic accomplishment, and a memoir that is likely to become a classic account of both memory and experience.



[Download Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth Victor Brombert

From reader reviews:

Virgil Arriola:

Throughout other case, little men and women like to read book Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth. You can choose the best book if you appreciate reading a book. As long as we know about how is important any book Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth. You can add knowledge and of course you can around the world with a book. Absolutely right, because from book you can realize everything! From your country until eventually foreign or abroad you can be known. About simple matter until wonderful thing you may know that. In this era, we could open a book or searching by internet unit. It is called e-book. You may use it when you feel uninterested to go to the library. Let's go through.

Julie Kappel:

The book Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You can utilize to make your capable far more increase. Book can being your best friend when you getting tension or having big problem along with your subject. If you can make looking at a book Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth to become your habit, you can get a lot more advantages, like add your own capable, increase your knowledge about many or all subjects. You can know everything if you like available and read a book Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science guide or encyclopedia or other individuals. So , how do you think about this publication?

Joseph Whitely:

You may spend your free time to read this book this book. This Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth is simple to bring you can read it in the area, in the beach, train in addition to soon. If you did not have got much space to bring the particular printed book, you can buy often the e-book. It is make you better to read it. You can save the book in your smart phone. Thus there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Donna Feuerstein:

Don't be worry in case you are afraid that this book can filled the space in your house, you can have it in e-book method, more simple and reachable. This particular Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth can give you a lot of good friends because by you checking out this one book you have thing that they don't and make anyone more like an interesting person. This particular book can be one of one step for you to get success. This e-book offer you information that probably your friend doesn't know, by knowing more than other make you to be great persons. So , why hesitate? Let us have Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth.

**Download and Read Online Trains of Thought: Memories of a
Stateless Youth Victor Brombert #U9RX8VIL5SF**

Read Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth by Victor Brombert for online ebook

Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth by Victor Brombert Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth by Victor Brombert books to read online.

Online Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth by Victor Brombert ebook PDF download

Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth by Victor Brombert Doc

Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth by Victor Brombert Mobipocket

Trains of Thought: Memories of a Stateless Youth by Victor Brombert EPub