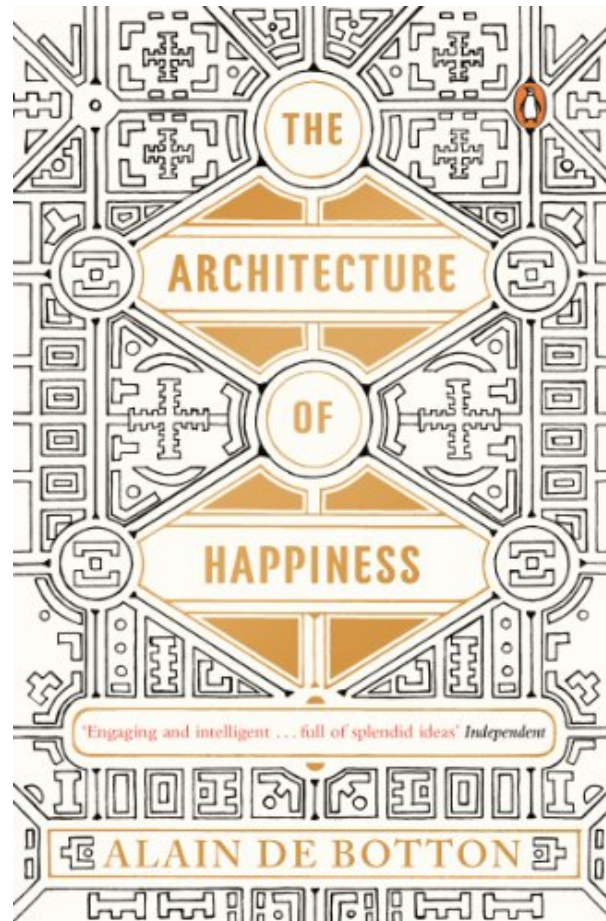
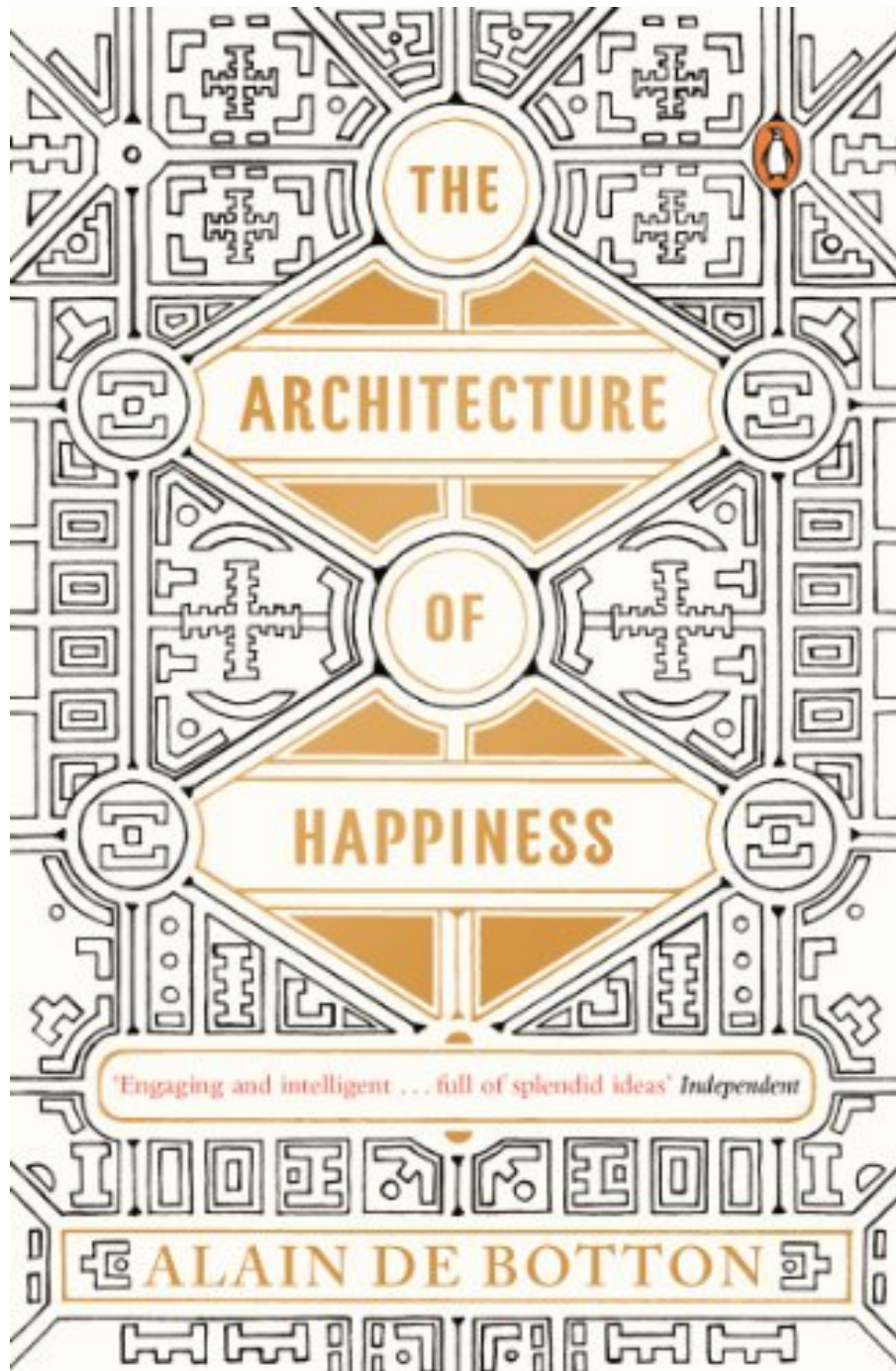


THE ARCHITECTURE OF HAPPINESS BY ALAIN DE BOTTON



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This dazzling journey through the philosophy and psychology of architecture explores the indelible connection between our identities and our locations. Alain de Botton argues that our environment heavily influences who we can be.

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Most helpful customer reviews

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

A Superb Read

By KY Hylbilly

After buying and reading this book, I did something I've never done before: ordered a copy sent to a lifelong friend who, like me, is not an architect, but has an appreciation and abiding interest in topics and writings that are so well developed and imaginative as to take the topic to a new or higher level. I told my friend that this little book is worth reading in itself on at least three separate levels of interest and enjoyment: 1) the marriage of function and beauty revealed in good architecture, 2) the soaring, imaginative range of vocabulary the author uses to make his thesis, and finally, 3) the exquisite humor he inserts, when least expected, to lighten (and enlighten). In short, this is a wonderful little book to send your spirits soaring, get a

frequent laugh, and even discover new meaning and beauty in the man-made structures around us.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Refreshing take on beauty in architecture

By Tim Williams

This book approaches architecture from outside the field and begins to answer questions that architects have recently forgotten to ask. (What is beauty in architecture? What is style and in which should one build?)

Required reading for architects and anyone considering buying or constructing a building.

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful.

More Manner Than Matter

By Anne Mills

This book asks a question that has interested me for a long time -- what makes some buildings beautiful? Unfortunately, the author does not provide much in the way of answers. He does discuss some interesting ideas, notably the fact that ideas of beauty in architecture change over time. But he passes over this to go on to more timeless issues -- balance, elegance, etc. It all sounds very nice -- Mr. De Botton's prose is unfailingly elegant, sometimes irritatingly so. It just doesn't add up to much.

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