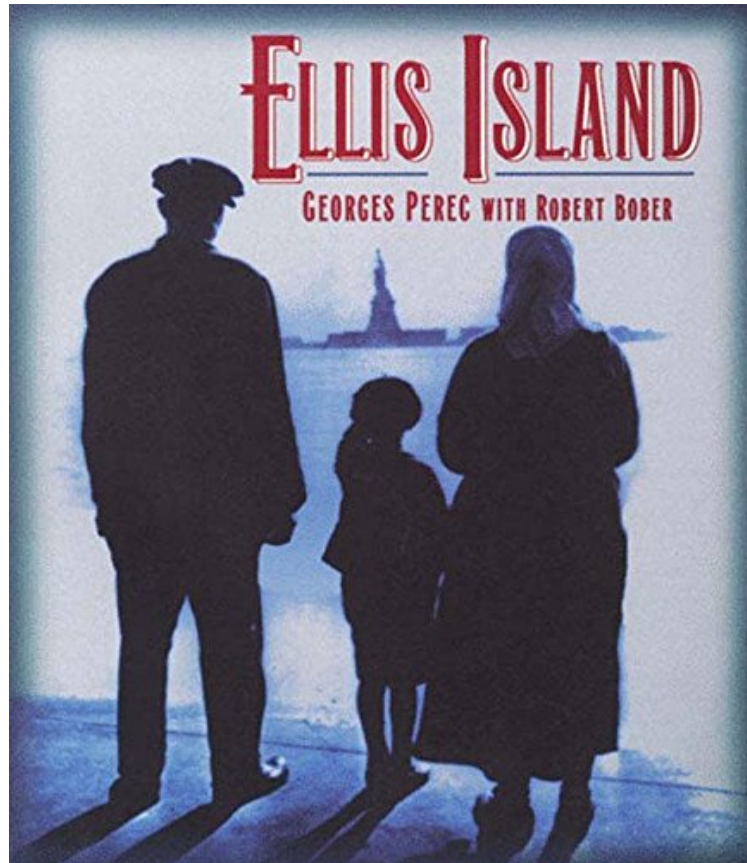


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Ellis Island

Georges Perec, Robert Bober
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Georges Perec, Robert Bober : Ellis Island before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ellis Island:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ellis Island By Monique Adam Very good history. Pictures alone tell the story 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Parisian Awesome Book 10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. avoid? By courtney J angermeier At four pages, eleven paragraphs (not including the introductory quote), thirty five sentences, and (sorry Georges) more words than I really wanted to count despite how cool it would have looked here, Ellis Island is a tome. It made me more intensely examine my own identity than all three hundred pages of What Color is Your Parachute even came close to doing. (Actually, I only read about four pages of that one too, but I could tell where it was going.) Ellis Island, however, was a complete surprise. The bit about what it means to be a Jew and the fact that that aspect of his identity is more concretely defined by its absence than its presence, is profound. I mean, other people have said it, certainly, but this is, without a doubt, the clearest presentation I have encountered. I think it's particularly telling that he should set these musings in America, at Ellis Island. We, as Americans, particularly as white Americans, have a watered down and dissipated culture defined not by who we are, what we love, how we live etc., but what, ultimately, we are not. This small work was a four-page

invitation to examine my relation to my roots, my country, and my culture. Ugh. I loved it.

The French novelist Georges Perec has continually captured the American imagination, most recently with the publication of *A Void*, a novel written without the letter e. *Ellis Island* holds us in thrall once again. With poetic grace, insistent questioning, and a stunning carousel of images, Perec and filmmaker Robert Bober open our eyes to the intriguing blend of permanence and transience that is Ellis Island.

Part history, part memoir, part meditation, this extended essay with photos is a strikingly original and striking book. -- Kliatt
The gripping archival photographs tell the story simply and graphically. -- Parade
Language Notes
Text: English
Original Language: French
From the Back Cover
The French novelist Georges Perec, whose *Life: A User's Manual* has been called a landmark of contemporary literature, has continually captured the American imagination, most recently with the publication of *A Void*, a novel written without the letter e. *Ellis Island* holds us in thrall once again. With poetic grace, insistent questioning, and a stunning carousel of images, Perec and filmmaker Robert Bober open our eyes to the intriguing blend of permanence and transience that is Ellis Island. In lyrical prose, they explore their personal relationships to the themes of diaspora and identity, then interview men and women who, as children, arrived at Ellis Island full of hope and dreams about their new lives in America. *Ellis Island* offers a whole new presentation of the immigrant experience.