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Because You Have to: A Writing Life

By Joan Frank

University of Notre Dame Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Because You Have to: A Writing Life, Joan Frank, Part memoir, part handbook, part survey of the contemporary literary scene, Joan Frank's "Because You Have To: A Writing Life" is a collection of essays that, taken together, provide a walking tour of the writing life. Frank's aim is to form a coherent vision, one that may provide some communion about realities of the writer's vocation that have struck her as rarely revealed. Frank offers what she has learned as a writer not only to other writers, but to those to whom good writing matters. Her insights about "thinking on paper" are never dogmatic or pontifical; rather, they are cordial and intellectually welcoming. Original, witty, and practical, Frank ably steers us through the journey of her own life as a writer, as well as through the careers and work of other writers. Her subjects range widely, from the boot camp conditioning of marketing work to squaring off with rejection and envy; from sustaining belief in art's necessity to the baffling subjectivity of literary perception and the magical books that nourish writers. Frank's personal journey is wonderfully...

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