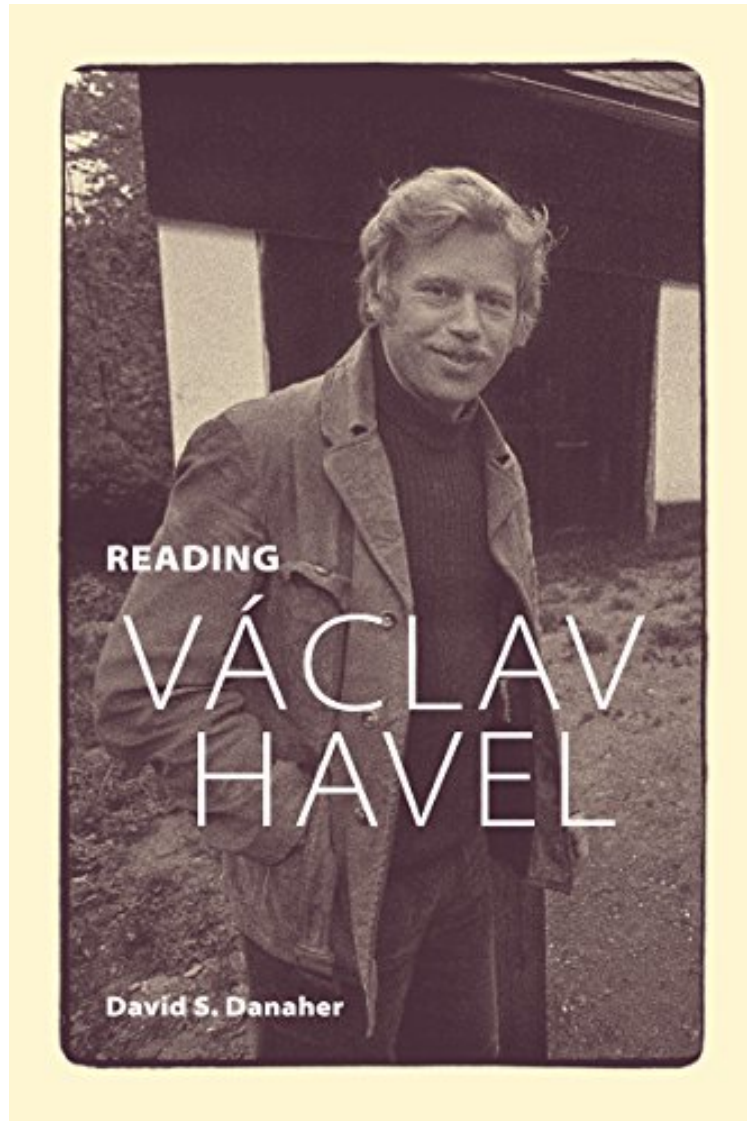


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Reading Vaacute;clav Havel

David S. Danaher

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David S. Danaher : Reading Vaacute;clav Havel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Reading Vaacute;clav Havel:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book about HavelBy ivan andradeSurprising recent study about Havel's work!

As a playwright, a dissident, and a politician, Vaacute;clav Havel was one of the most important intellectual figures of the late twentieth century. Working in an extraordinary range of genres ndash; poetry, plays, public letters,

philosophical essays, and political speeches — he left behind a range of texts so diverse that scholars have had difficulty grappling with his oeuvre as a whole. In *Reading Vaacute;clav Havel*, David S. Danaher approaches Havel's remarkable body of work holistically, focusing on the language, images, and ideas which appear and reappear in the many genres in which Havel wrote. Carefully reading the original Czech texts alongside their English versions, he exposes what in Havel's thought has been lost in translation. A passionate argument for Havel's continuing relevance, *Reading Vaacute;clav Havel* is the first book to capture the fundamental unity of his vast literary legacy.

Reading Vaacute;clav Havel is a refreshing book that will help us see Havel in a new way. By redirecting our attention to Havel's language and genres, Danaher makes a genuine contribution to our understanding of his work. More generally, he helps us think about how to approach literary, philosophical and philosophical writers — how to interpret their ideas while still investigating their language and form. (Jonathan Bolton, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Harvard University) This is among the best books written on Havel in the English language. Perhaps the richest and fullest account of Havel made by any scholar, *Reading Vaacute;clav Havel* brings to light the extraordinary literary power of the former Czech president. (James Pontuso, Department of Government and Foreign Affairs, Hampden-Sydney College) About the Author David S. Danaher is a professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.