


Tristia



Reviews Written by Tristia (New York City)

Show: **Page: 1**

[The Fan Who Knew Too Much: Aretha Franklin, the Rise of the Soap Opera, Children of the Gospel Church, and Other Meditations](#)

by Anthony Heilbut
Edition: Hardcover
Price: **\$21.90**

[71 used & new](#) from **\$10.76**

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful

★★★★★ **Nimble, expansive and conveyed with delightful panache,**
December 10, 2012

Amazon Verified Purchase ([What's this?](#))

This review is from: [The Fan Who Knew Too Much: Aretha Franklin, the Rise of the Soap Opera, Children of the Gospel Church, and Other Meditations \(Hardcover\)](#)

Heilbut's work has long been distinguished by his gift for taking on polysemous topics and spinning the reader through them, gracefully and compellingly--teasing out all sorts of unexpected associations along the way. It's a pleasure to read intellectual history where the frame of reference is so unabashedly broad and the weave of ideas so rewarding to follow. In this volume, the essay "Yesterday's Heroes," which looks into the afterlife of some of the figures he explored in his great book "Exiled in Paradise," contains a tour de force of cascading cultural links that takes readers from Hannah Arendt into Marlene Dietrich and Hedy Lamarr--then back around the block to Bertolt Brecht. It's an irresistible ride and full of discoveries.