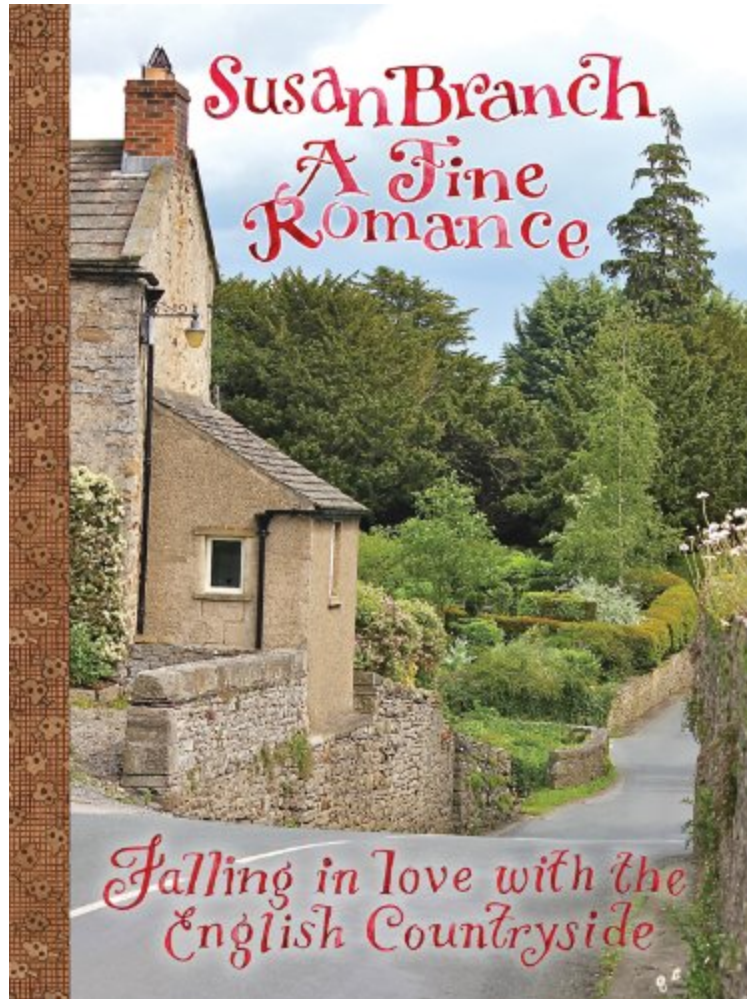


(Download pdf) A Fine Romance: Falling in Love With the English Countryside

A Fine Romance: Falling in Love With the English Countryside

Susan Branch

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#282132 in Books 2013-08-15 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.25 x 6.00 x 1.251, 1.35 #File Name: 0984913661260 pages | File size: 72.Mb

Susan Branch : A Fine Romance: Falling in Love With the English Countryside before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Fine Romance: Falling in Love With the English Countryside:

118 of 123 people found the following review helpful. I Just Fell in Love with the English Countryside! By MadisonI have just finished this much anticipated journal! I couldn't put it down! Susan's journal, documenting her recent trip to England, takes us along with her and Joe, every step of the way ~ over hill and dale, visiting friends, castles, landmarks, pubs, tea rooms and antique stores. If you can't get on the QE2, this is, by far, the next best way to see England. This gem is handwritten, and illustrated in Susan's wonderful watercolor style and peppered with lots of fun, candid photos. As an added treat, Susan has an interactive appendix on her website ([...] complete with tips and additional details about where they went, where they stayed and what not to miss. A great take-along guide if you

happen to sail to England!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Begin as a reader, leave as a friend....you won't be disappointedBy DragonflyBought the book for myself--and was not disappointed. Enjoyed the chatty nature (as if I were the only one with her, and we were both good friends on the journey together) and descriptions of places from the Queen Mary 2 to the places visited in each chapter. There was no agenda here other than to inform and entertain, with reflection thrown in at the end for good measure. The watercolors are lovely, each a tiny jewel throughout the book. The photos are heartwarming at times, outlining a trip that was well thought out and truly memorable. I will never get to England and certainly never get to sail on an ocean liner. However, I did fall in love with the book, did learn much about England, and finished the book with a smile on my face and a cozy feeling in my heart. Not too many books can evoke such emotions anymore.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Fine Romance - an unusual an Interesting TravelogueBy J. HughesThis is an intriguing book that has been carefully written with wonderful drawings that make you want to read more. This is the second book by Susan Branch that I gave read and I want to read and enjoy more. These books are great to relax with and picture being there.

Travel writing at its best by Susan Branch, New York Times best selling author, in a A Fine Romance, Falling in Love with the English Countryside. This charming book is part love story, part travel guide ~ a hand-written and watercolored diary/journal of Branch's six-day transatlantic crossing on board the Queen Mary 2 and two-month ramble through the backroads of rural England.

Reese Witherspoon - Draper James. com A Southern Style Blog FEB 13, 2016 BOOKS DJ READS: EIGHT BOOKS ABOUT LOVE. This time of year, there is nothing we would rather do than delve into a gripping love story. So we asked eight of our favorite bookstores in the South to give us their picks for books that explore the many facets of love, from tragic romances to unbreakable family ties. Number 2: A Fine Romance: Falling in Love With the English Countryside by Susan Branch Chosen by Full Circle Bookstore in Oklahoma City, OK: With beautiful pictures and handwritten print throughout the book, this diary of love in England is a true joy. --Reese Witherspoon Blog.DraperJames.com er's Rating: 5 stars. Anglophiles listen up: this book is for you! Talented artist, writer, and blogger Susan Branch has put together a charming travel journal of her two month longtrip to England. A Fine Romanceis chock full of wonderful photos she and her husband took on their trip interspersed with the colorful drawings and lettering that have set apart her work and style as distinctly her own. The trip starts off with a six day ocean voyage, onboard the Queen Mary 2, from New York to Southampton, England. This dream trip is divided into mainly three areas: the Southwest of England, the Lake District, and the Cotswolds. They visit many attractions familiar to any self- respecting Brit lover such as Sissinghurst, Royal Ascot, Stonehenge, Chawton (Jane Austen's home), and Hilltop (Beatrix Potter s home). But what is really fun is learning about places less familiar, like Bateman s (the home of Rudyard Kipling), Charleston (the home of the Bloomsbury Group s Clive and Vanessa Bell), and Smallhythe Place (home of Victorian stage actress Ellen Terry). Armchair travel at its best! Sarah Askew 4/29/15 er's Rating: 5 stars. I couldn t have read A Fine Romance at a more perfect time.It was the perfect book to read while cooped up in a hospital room waiting for a loved one to heal.I sailed right along with Susan Branch and her husband, Joe, as they journeyed to England via ship and explored the country for two months.This book is not only Susan s diary during their vacation in England, it is also a very informational and exhilarating guide to both well-known and hidden places in England, many of which belong to the National Trust.Above all else, this book is a journey of the senses, using a mixture of her characteristic font that looks like handwriting, gorgeous watercolors, and real photographs to describe, with incredibly absorbing detail, two months of smelling, tasting, and sight-seeing springtime England. The beginning chapters quickly but romantically describe how Susan and Joe met and fell in love.It s an ordinary love story bedecked with remarkable details like the illustration of Joe with an enormous bouquet of flowers--an illustration I cannot help but keep revisiting.After enjoying their first journey to England in 2004, Susan and Joe decide to visit again in 2012, this time documenting their adventures.Susan s diaries wholly reflect their love for history,food, gardens, art, and old-timey movies and music. I was mesmerized by the beauty of this book, often spending several minutes examining pictures and illustrations--their messy ship room, or rather, cocoon;strange English curiosities such as the magnetic soap holder,gorgeous illustrations like Susan s black teapot drawing, and inventive mixed media techniques such as the watercolor tea being poured into a picture of a real teacup.It took me at least an hour to carefully comb through the Beatrix Potter pages.Because of Susan s excellent attention to detail, I felt like I was exploring Hill Top as Beatrix Potter herself. I could smell the raw celerysmell of the air, taste the bangers and beans, and feel the petals of each flower.My heart danced with joy each time Susan listed all the springtime flowers, with accompanying illustrations so perfectly lush it looked like the flowers were growing from the pages of the book.Ordinary details such as eating hot milk cake while knitting with a friend, wood pigeons cooing My toe hurts, Betty;and hillsides dotted with lambsmade me fist pump the air in elation. This book is balm for the spirit.Whether you are looking for a magical retreat, a helpful and incomparable England travel guide, or inspiration to write a memoir or scrapbook of a special moment in your life, this book has something for everyone. Hannah Jane Chambers 2/19/16 --Johnson County (Kansas) Public Libraries reviews jocolibrary.orgFrom the AuthorI love storytelling, and

especially, I love doing it in a creatively visual style. I hope you enjoy it too!

From the Inside Flap

The first time I met my darling Joe we discovered we both had the same dream -- of taking a voyage to England on an ocean liner. To celebrate our 25th anniversary, we did just that, crossing the Atlantic on the Queen Mary II and spending two months wandering the English countryside. I kept a diary of the journey, and when we returned home to Martha's Vineyard, I put it all together in this hand-written book. A fine Romance begins with the story of how Joe and I found each other and fell in love. Then we're off -- on a quest for serendipity and discovery. Join us as we walk ancient footpaths over hill dale, along winding hedgerows to castles, cottages, romantic gardens, tearooms, antique stores and pubs. We'll take you through historic homes such as Jane Austen's house and Beatrix Potter's Hill Top Farm; from Kent to the Yorkshire Dales to the Cotswolds and more. You'll find recipes, maps, and travel tips. As you are about to see, A Fine Romance is proof-positive that dreams really do come true.