



## Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi

*Victor Brombert*

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

# Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi

*Victor Brombert*

## **Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi** Victor Brombert

“All art and the love of art,” Victor Brombert writes at the beginning of the deeply personal *Musings on Mortality*, “allow us to negate our nothingness.” As a young man returning from World War II, Brombert came to understand this truth as he immersed himself in literature. Death can be found everywhere in literature, he saw, but literature itself is on the side of life. With delicacy and penetrating insight, Brombert traces the theme of mortality in the work of a group of authors who wrote during the past century and a half, teasing out and comparing their views of death as they emerged from vastly different cultural contexts.

Leo Tolstoy, Thomas Mann, Franz Kafka, Virginia Woolf, Albert Camus, Giorgio Bassani, J. M. Coetzee, and Primo Levi—these are the writers whose works Brombert plumbs, illuminating their views on the meaning of life and the human condition. But there is more to their work, he shows, than a pervasive interest in mortality: they wrote not only of physical death but also of the threat of moral and spiritual death—and as the twentieth century progressed, they increasingly reflected on the traumatic events of their times and the growing sense of a collective historical tragedy. He probes the individual struggle with death, for example, through Tolstoy’s Ivan Ilych and Mann’s Aschenbach, while he explores the destruction of whole civilizations in Bassani, Camus, and Primo Levi. For Kafka and Woolf, writing seems to hold the promise of salvation, though that promise is seen as ambiguous and even deceptive, while Coetzee, writing about violence and apartheid South Africa, is deeply concerned with a sense of disgrace. Throughout the book, Brombert roots these writers’ reflections in philosophical meditations on mortality. Ultimately, he reveals that by understanding how these authors wrote about mortality, we can grasp the full scope of their literary achievement and vision.

Drawing deeply from the well of Brombert’s own experience, *Musings on Mortality* is more than mere literary criticism: it is a moving and elegant book for all to learn and live by.



[Download Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi ...pdf](#)

## **Download and Read Free Online Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi Victor Brombert**

---

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Benjamin Chambers:**

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive today, people have do something to make these survives, being in the middle of often the crowded place and notice by surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated that for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a book your ability to survive raise then having chance to stand up than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading a new book, we give you that Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi book as beginning and daily reading book. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

#### **Eric Ballentine:**

The publication untitled Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi is the reserve that recommended to you to see. You can see the quality of the e-book content that will be shown to you. The language that publisher use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The copy writer was did a lot of study when write the book, hence the information that they share to you is absolutely accurate. You also might get the e-book of Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi from the publisher to make you a lot more enjoy free time.

#### **Geneva Milbourn:**

Can you one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt when you find yourself in the book store? Try to pick one book that you never know the inside because don't determine book by its deal with may doesn't work at this point is difficult job because you are scared that the inside maybe not because fantastic as in the outside appear likes. Maybe you answer might be Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi why because the great cover that make you consider about the content will not disappoint a person. The inside or content is fantastic as the outside or cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly make suggestions to pick up this book.

#### **Alyson Ward:**

You are able to spend your free time to learn this book this e-book. This Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi is simple to develop you can read it in the park your car, in the beach, train and also soon. If you did not get much space to bring the actual printed book, you can buy the e-book. It is make you easier to read it. You can save the particular book in your smart phone. Consequently there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

**Download and Read Online Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to  
Primo Levi Victor Brombert #0KVQ9PTBUZ8**

# **Read Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi by Victor Brombert for online ebook**

Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi by Victor Brombert Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi by Victor Brombert books to read online.

## **Online Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi by Victor Brombert ebook PDF download**

**Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi by Victor Brombert Doc**

**Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi by Victor Brombert MobiPocket**

**Musings on Mortality: From Tolstoy to Primo Levi by Victor Brombert EPub**