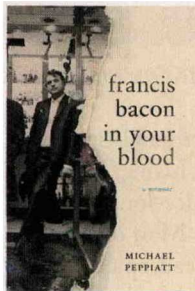


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## BRIEFLY NOTED



**FRANCIS BACON IN YOUR BLOOD**, by Michael Peppiatt (*Bloomsbury*). This frank and stylish memoir recounts the author's friendship with Francis Bacon, whom he met in 1963 and, for the next thirty years, accompanied on mostly late, drunken nights. For Peppiatt, a biographer of Bacon, these encounters were like audiences with a captivating, besotted oracle, and he would hurry home to record Bacon's jauntily bleak aphorisms about his "gilded gutter life." Bacon—despite a "darker streak" that was often poised "like a cobra about to strike, in a poisonously wounding remark"—emerges as a man who lived apart from his work. "The savagery of the painting, the attack on mankind," the author writes, "was confined to the studio."

