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Brief notes on de Botton

- We can sense that a room or building is well designed without being able to explain why.
- Architecture communicates to us. A large front porch can be welcoming. An unvarnished wooden floor will show signs of age and reveal its quality or lack thereof.
- In one Japanese house, the living and sleeping areas are separated by an open atrium, so that you walk through the open air to get from one to the other. You can never ignore nature.
- A good architect can make his building seem inevitable, even when it's anything but.
- "It is books, poems and paintings which often give us the confidence to take seriously feelings in ourselves that we might otherwise never have thought to acknowledge." (262)

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