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professor tommy koh is singapore s ambassador at large at the ministry of foreign affairs rector of tembusu college special adviser of the institute of policy studies and chairman of the centre for international law national university of singapore in his distinguished

career prof koh has served as singapore s permanent representative to the united nations as ambassador to the united states of america as president of the third un conference on the law of the sea and chairman of the preparatory committee and the main committee of the un conference on environment and development he was the un secretary general s special envoy to russia estonia latvia and lithuania he chaired two dispute panels for the wto he was also singapore s chief negotiator for the us singapore free trade agreement he was also the chairman of the group which drafted the asean charter he chairs three committees for the national university of singapore relating to law asia research and environmental management an active patron of the arts prof koh has served as chairman of the national heritage board national arts council and many other cultural groups in recognition of his meritorious public service and achievements he was conferred many honours both locally and internationally he has been named as champion of the earth in 2006 by the un environment programme unep prof koh has been selected to receive harvard s 2014 great negotiator award sponsored by the program on negotiation based at harvard law school an interuniversity consortium of harvard mit and tufts as well as harvard s program on the future of diplomacy this collection of prof koh s favourite essays and lectures gives the reader an insight into his illustrious academic and diplomatic career the volume also includes his articles on diplomacy and international law art culture heritage nature and environmental issues

in her introduction to this year s the best american essays guest editor vivian gornick states that her selections contribute materially to the long and honorable history of the personal essay by way of the value they place on lived experience provocative daring and honest at a time when many writers are deliberately silencing themselves in the face of authoritarian and populist censorship movements the twenty one essays collected here reflect their authors unapologetic observations of the world around them from an inmate struggling to find purpose during his prison sentence to a doctor coping with the unpredictable nature of her patient to a widow wishing for just a little more time with her late husband these narratives and the others featured in this anthology celebrate the endurance of the human spirit the best american essays 2023 includes ciara alfaro jillian barnet sylvie baumgartel eric borsuk chris dennis xujun eberlein sandra hager eliason george estreich merrill joan gerber debra gwartney edward hoagland laura kipnis phillip lopate celeste marcus sam meekings sigrid nunez kathryn schulz anthony siegel scott spencer angelique stevens david treuer

humanism is the progressive philosophy of life that without supernaturalism affirms our ability and responsibility to lead ethical lives of personal fulfillment that aspire to the greater good of humanity for the past ninety years the humanist magazine and its

predecessor the new humanist have published the most profound and provocative humanist writing in america this volume focuses on the first forty five years of the magazine from 1928 to 1973 and on the philosophical discussion that formed its heart the work of thinkers as accomplished as buckminster fuller corliss lamont b f skinner frank lloyd wright lucile green and isaac asimov is included along with that of many others editor charles murn has organized the essays into eleven chapters providing an overview of the evolution of humanist thinking in each area chapter 1 some essentials of humanist philosophy chapter 2 types of humanism chapter 3 the source and nature of humanist values chapter 4 scientific method and scientific knowledge in humanist philosophy chapter 5 humanism explores the unknown and defines the uncertain chapter 6 religious humanism as nontheistic naturalistic and instrumental chapter 7 the roles of emotion and spirituality in humanism chapter 8 working out humanist morals and ethics chapter 9 humanistic psychology and freedom chapter 10 humanism science and the arts and humanities chapter 11 humanism comes to value other life forms and nature

includes section reviews of recent theological literature

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