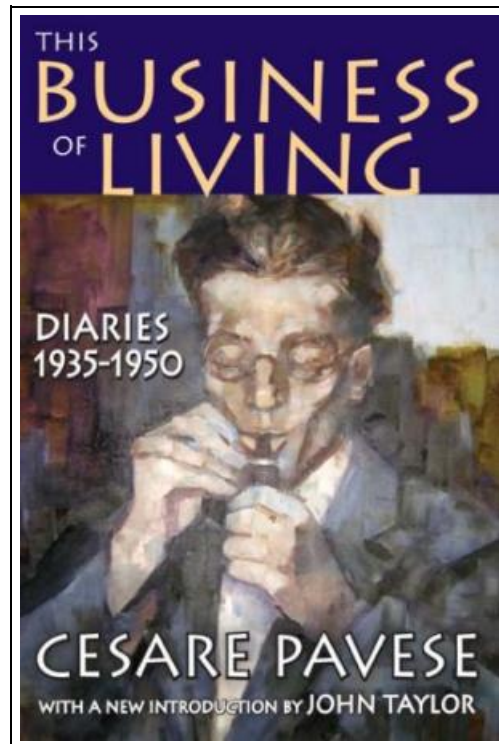


## This Business of Living Diaries 1935-1950



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Transaction Publishers. Paperback. Condition: New. 372 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 6.0in. x 1.0in. On June 23rd, 1950, Pavese, Italys greatest modern writer received the coveted Strega Award for his novel *Among Women Only*. On August 26th, in a small hotel in his home town of Turin, he took his own life. Shortly before his death, he methodically destroyed all his private papers. His diary is all that remains and for this the contemporary reader can be grateful. Contemporary speculation attributed this tragedy to either an unhappy love affair with the American film star Constance Dawling or his growing disillusionment with the Italian Communist Party. His Diaries, however, reveal a man whose art was his only means of repressing the specter of suicide which had haunted him since childhood: an obsession that finally overwhelmed him. As John Taylor notes, he possessed something much more precious than a political theory: a natural sensitivity to the plight and dignity of common people, be they bums, priests, grape-pickers, gas station attendants, office workers, or anonymous girls picked up on the street (though to women, the author could--as he admitted--be as misogynous as he was affectionate). Bitter and incisive, *This Business of Living*, is both moving and painful to read and stands with James Joyces *Letters* and Andre Gides *Journals* as one of the great literary testaments of the twentieth century. Cesare Pavese (1908-1950), was educated in Turin. In 1930 he began to contribute essays on American literature to *La Cultura*, of which he later became editor. In 1935 he was imprisoned for anti-fascist activities. This experience formed the basis of *The Political Prisoner*. Between 1936 and 1940 nine of his books were published in Italy, these included novels, short stories, poetry and essays. His books have been filmed and dramatized,...



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