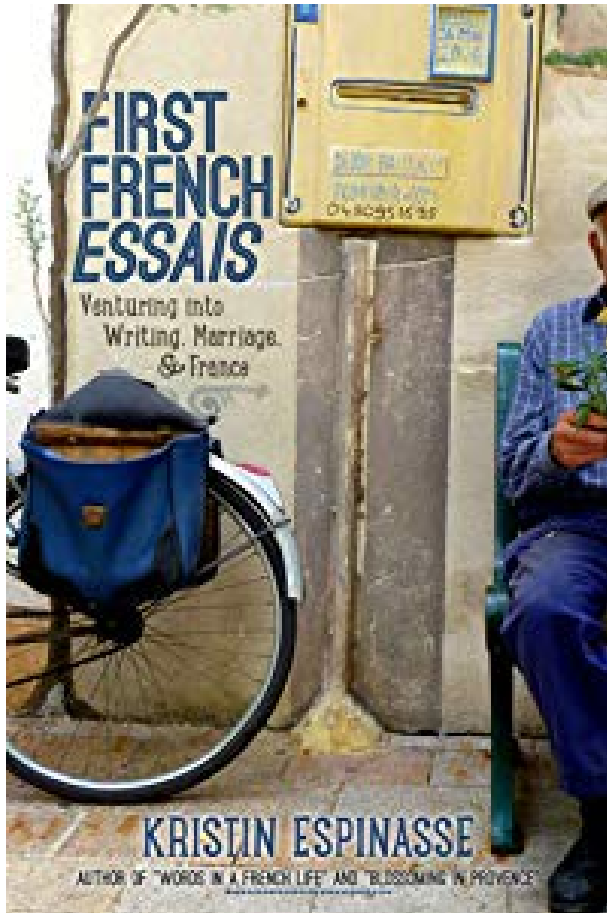


# First French Essais: Venturing into Writing, Marriage, and France



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Kristin struggled--and eventually succeeded--in learning French in school, but the real ones begin when she lands in France, to start her adult life with a Marseillais. From quitting her first stable job (as a glorified janitor) near St. Tropez, to dusting off her dream of writing, Kristin pursues 'la vie en rose' only to discover that reality is... muddy! There are no clear instructions on how to behave in France. In this book of colorful photos and tender essays, Kristin shows us how she overcomes these cultural "tests", always finishing with an "A" for amour de la vie!