



Precious Perversions: Humor, Homosexuality, and the Southern Literary Canon (Hardback)

By Professor Tison Pugh

Louisiana State University Press, United States, 2016. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Southern literature has long been heralded for its tragic sentiments, in its somber and necessary acknowledgments of the region's tormented past, as it has concomitantly asserted an overwhelmingly heteronormative vision of Southern life. Yet a pantheon of great authors, ranging from Tennessee Williams, Carson McCullers, and Truman Capote to the present-day voices of Florence King, Dorothy Allison, and David Sedaris, collectively attest both to the vibrancy of queer experience and to the prevalence of humor found in this rich regional canon. In *Precious Perversions: Humor, Homosexuality, and the Southern Literary Canon*, Tison Pugh challenges the premises that elevate William Faulkner and diminish Rita Mae Brown, that esteem Walker Percy yet marginalize David Sedaris, by arguing for the inclusion of gay comic authors as defining voices in the field. By redefining the tenets of Southern literature, Pugh reveals its long-overlooked or discounted aspects of gay humor. Noting, for example, that Tennessee Williams is revered as a dramatist who probes the heart of the human condition rather than for his submerged camp humor, and that Truman Capote's comic cinema and literature never eclipsed his...



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