

Rosemarie Garland Thomson

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Freakery: Cultural Spectacles of the Extraordinary Body



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Giants. In her launch, Thomson traces the freak display from antiquity to the modern period and explores the constitutive, political, and textual properties of such exhibits. and theoretical analyses of freak culture. The book's essays fall into four main classes: traditional explorations of American freak displays in the period of P. The slim. Hermaphrodites. Essays address such varied topics as American colonialism and public presentations of natives; The disabled. Barnum; In American background, all have shared the platform equally, as freaks, individual oddities, their just commonality their assigned function of anomalous additional to the gathered throngs. For the cost of a ticket, freak shows provided spectators an icon of bodily otherness whose difference from them secured their own membership in a common American identity--by comparison normal, tractable, normal. Rosemarie Thomson's groundbreaking anthology probes America's disposition toward the visually different. The very fat.T. The very hirsute, the articulation of the freak in literary and textual discourses; laughing gas demonstrations in the 1840's; Tribal non-Westerners. Conjoined twins, contemporary relocations of freak shows; Shirley Temple and Tom Thumb; Michael Jackson's identification with the Elephant Guy; bodybuilders as postmodern freaks; freaks in Superstar Trek; Todd Browning's landmark movie Freaks; and the modern talk show simply because a reconfiguration of the freak show. Midgets. Freakeryis a fresh, insightful exploration of a heretofore neglected facet of American mass culture.



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A really intelligent discussion on the subject I am absolutely in love with this book! I've not finished it yet, but there are therefore many amazing descriptions of "freaks", their part in the circuses, society and what was happening culturally during the time of the freak displays. But I tend to ramble. The pages are very new..I could go on and on.If it's not an market, but a random curiosity, it's still more than worth the purchase.So, I'll leave it at: if this is an area of interest of yours, this publication is a "must have". Five Stars good shape good book! New and great I received this reserve in new condition, just like as described in the description before I made this purchase..



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