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## Balkan Beauty, Balkan Blood: Modern Albanian Short Stories

By Robert Elsie, Robert Elsie, Andrew Baruch Wachtel

Northwestern University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Balkan Beauty, Balkan Blood: Modern Albanian Short Stories, Robert Elsie, Robert Elsie, Andrew Baruch Wachtel, Although Albanian literature dates back to the 1500s, creative prose in that nation is very much a twentieth-century phenomenon; and much as the early literature in Albanian was interrupted by Ottoman rule - and oppression - its later emergence was stymied and stunted by Stalinist politics and propaganda. What this volume documents is, then, a literature at once venerable and nascent, a tradition in the making, however deep its roots. In these stories representing the last three decades of Albanian writing - especially the burst of creativity in the newfound freedom of the 1990s - readers will encounter work that reflects the literary paradox of Eastern Europe in the late twentieth century: the startling originality of the new uneasily coupled with the strains of history; the sophistication and self-consciousness of late (or post-) modernity married to the simplicity of a literature first finding its voice; a refusal of political influence and pressure expressed through frankly political subject matter. Albania's more established writers (including Dritero Agolli, Ismail Kadare, Teodor Laco, and Eqrem Basha) appear here alongside newer...



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