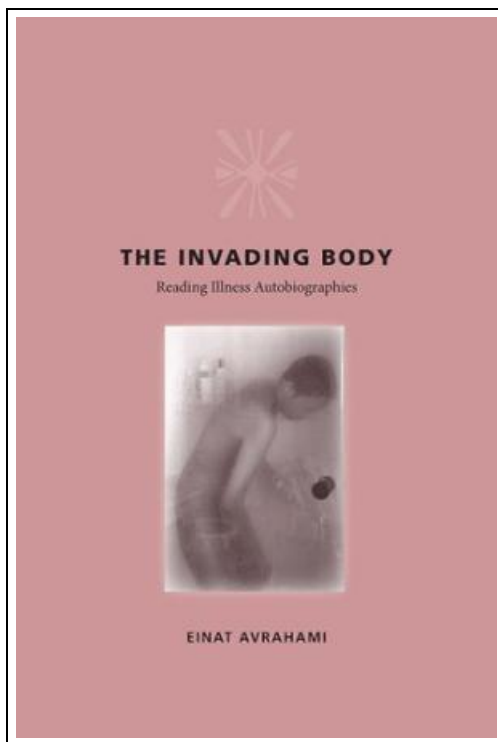


The Invading Body Reading Illness Autobiographies



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Reviews

I just began reading this pdf. It is actually written in straightforward words instead of hard to understand. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.
(Jensen Bins)

THE INVADING BODY READING ILLNESS AUTOBIOGRAPHIES



University of Virginia Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 224 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 6.1in. x 0.6in. Widely debated in feminist, poststructuralist, and literary theory is the relationship between subjectivity and the body. Yet autobiographical criticism--an obvious place for testing this conceptual relationship--has lagged behind contemporary queries about the embodied self. In *The Invading Body*, Einat Avrahami corrects this deficiency by analyzing the genre of terminal illness autobiographies. These personal narratives challenge the world of self-writing in their power to question the assumption that autobiography--and the body--are products of cultural constructs and discursive practices. Their self-disclosures of symptoms, disabilities, and the physical and psychological pains of treatment, especially when combined with thoughts of further deterioration and imminent death, defy the theoretical formulations of identity and alter the definition of autobiography itself. Avrahami investigates an array of autobiographical testimonies of terminal illness ranging from Harold Brodkeys poignant account of his struggle with AIDS to Hannah Wilkes and Jo Spences gripping self-portraits of cancer. By challenging the artificial and contrived skepticism that critics and theorists bring to their concepts of the self, the author argues, these illness narratives constitute an invasion of the real, confronting the notions of self-representation and self-invention on which current autobiographical studies are based. The authors examinations of these moving memoirs and photographs will engage not only the growing field of disability studies, but also a more general readership interested in the transition that occurs when ones body suddenly falls out of step with ones mind. This item ships from multiple locations. Your book may arrive from Roseburg, OR, La Vergne, TN. Paperback.



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