



Portrait of the Artist as a Young Ape: A Caprice (Paperback)

By Michel Butor, Dominic Di Bernardi

Dalkey Archive Press, United States, 1995. Paperback. Condition: New. New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Like James Joyce s and Dylan Thomas s similar titles, Butor s novel is autobiographical in nature and explores the way a writer develops. Shortly after World War II a young man travels to a castle in Franconia housing the second largest private library in Germany. There he discovers a multitude of stimuli for his imagination: a castle once the site of celebrations and executions, the old library, mineral collections, rooms decorated in mythological themes, and an exiled count who has a passion for highly original games of solitaire. Days are spent in the library steeping himself in the literature of alchemy, whose great theme was transformation. At night, the young man dreams he is in an adventure that begins as a vampire story and ends as a tale from The Thousand and One Nights, in which a young man is transformed into an ape. Bordering between autobiography and elements of Gothic horror, this caprice shows the development as a young man of one of France s most important contemporary novelists during and just after World War II. Though as readers we have as...



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