



Goth: Undead Subculture

From Duke University Press Books

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Since it first emerged from Britain's punk-rock scene in the late 1970s, goth subculture has haunted postmodern culture and society, reinventing itself inside and against the mainstream. *Goth: Undead Subculture* is the first collection of scholarly essays devoted to this enduring yet little examined cultural phenomenon. Twenty-three essays from various disciplines explore the music, cinema, television, fashion, literature, aesthetics, and fandoms associated with the subculture. They examine goth's many dimensions—including its melancholy, androgyny, spirituality, and perversity—and take readers inside locations in Los Angeles, Austin, Leeds, London, Buffalo, New York City, and Sydney. A number of the contributors are or have been participants in the subculture, and several draw on their own experiences.

The volume's editors provide a rich history of goth, describing its play of resistance and consumerism; its impact on class, race, and gender; and its distinctive features as an "undead" subculture in light of post-subculture studies and other critical approaches. The essays include an interview with the distinguished fashion historian Valerie Steele; analyses of novels by Anne Rice, Poppy Z. Brite, and Nick Cave; discussions of goths on the Internet; and readings of iconic goth texts from Bram Stoker's *Dracula* to James O'Barr's graphic novel *The Crow*. Other essays focus on gothic music, including seminal precursors such as Joy Division and David Bowie, and goth-influenced performers such as the Cure, Nine Inch Nails, and Marilyn Manson. Gothic sexuality is explored in multiple ways, the subjects ranging from the San Francisco queercore scene of the 1980s to the increasing influence of fetishism and fetish play. Together these essays demonstrate that while its participants are often middle-class suburbanites, goth blurs normalizing boundaries even as it appears as an everlasting shadow of late capitalism.

Contributors: Heather Arnet, Michael Bibby, Jessica Burstein, Angel M. Butts, Michael du Plessis, Jason Friedman, Nancy Gagnier, Ken Gelder, Lauren M. E. Goodlad, Joshua Gunn, Trevor Holmes, Paul Hodgkinson, David Lenson, Robert Markley, Mark Nowak, Anna Powell, Kristen Schilt, Rebecca Schraffenberger, David Shumway, Carol Siegel, Catherine Spooner, Lauren Stasiak, Jeffrey Andrew Weinstock

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Editorial Review

Review

"Goth: Undead Subculture is a very engaging read—a nice mélange of ethnographic anecdote, cultural criticism, and historical analysis—in which a multidisciplinary crew of contributors analyzes an important and complex subculture through its fashions, music, dancing, literature, sexual practices, aesthetic ideals, theatrical displays, historical precedents, and ideologies."—Robert Walser, author of *Running with the Devil: Power, Gender, and Madness in Heavy Metal Music*

"Goth creates its distinctive way of life by appropriating materials from a vast array of cultural phenomena—post-punk music, gothic literary tradition, pre-Christian mythology, sexual nonconformity, aesthetic avant-gardes—all of which it adopts primarily as style. Goth style is thus both dizzyingly heterogeneous and instantly recognizable. It is hard to imagine a single book that could do this subculture justice; yet by assembling contributors from a range of disciplines and judiciously including many voices of subcultural participants themselves, *Goth: Undead Subculture* manages to depict, while also reflecting critically on, this subculture's enduring appeal. This collection will be the definitive work on its topic."—Tim Dean, author of *Beyond Sexuality*

From the Publisher

"Goth: Undead Subculture is a very engaging read--a nice mélange of ethnographic anecdote, cultural criticism, and historical analysis--in which a multidisciplinary crew of contributors analyzes an important and complex subculture through its fashions, music, dancing, literature, sexual practices, aesthetic ideals, theatrical displays, historical precedents, and ideologies."--Robert Walser, author of *Running with the Devil: Power, Gender, and Madness in Heavy Metal Music*

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From the Back Cover

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Users Review

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The particular book Goth: Undead Subculture will bring one to the new experience of reading a book. The author style to explain the idea is very unique. If you try to find new book to learn, this book very suited to you. The book Goth: Undead Subculture is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can quicker to read the book.

Deborah Anderson:

The book untitled Goth: Undead Subculture contain a lot of information on it. The writer explains your girlfriend idea with easy technique. The language is very straightforward all the people, so do definitely not worry, you can easy to read it. The book was compiled by famous author. The author gives you in the new age of literary works. It is possible to read this book because you can please read on your smart phone, or program, so you can read the book with anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can start their official web-site as well as order it. Have a nice examine.

Rebecca Walton:

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