



The Art of Scandal: Modernism, Libel Law, and the Roman a Clef

By Sean Latham

Oxford University Press, USA. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 224 pages. Dimensions: 9.3in. x 6.4in. x 0.9in.The Art of Scandal advances a relatively simple claim with farreaching consequences for modernist studies: writers and readers throughout the early twentieth century revived the long-despised codes and habits of the roman clef as a key part of that larger assault on Victorian realism we now call modernism. In the process, this resurgent genre took on a life of its own, reconfiguring the intricate relationship between literature, celebrity, and the law. Sean Latham summons cases of the novels social notoriety-and the numerous legal scandals the form provoked-to articulate the material networks of reception and circulation through which modernism took shape, revealing a little explored popular history within its development. Producers as well as consumers used elements of the controversial roman clef, a genre that challenges the idea of fiction as autonomous from the social and political world. In turn, this widespread practice provoked not only a generative aesthetic crisis, but also a gradually unfolding legal quandary that led Britains highest courts to worry that fiction itself might be illegal. Modernism sat squarely, for a time, between literature and the law. With skillful close readings...



Reviews

Very beneficial to all of type of individuals. This can be for those who statte that there had not been a really worth reading. You will not really feel monotony at at any time of your respective time (that's what catalogs are for concerning should you ask me).

-- Michale Shields

This publication might be worthy of a read through, and superior to other. It normally is not going to charge excessive. Its been written in an remarkably simple way and is particularly just after i finished reading through this book through which in fact transformed me, alter the way i really believe.

-- Juston Mraz