Uses of Literature

Rita Felski

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DESCRIPTION

*Uses of Literature* bridges the gap between literary theory and common-sense beliefs about why we read literature.

- Explores the diverse motives and mysteries of why we read
- Offers four different ways of thinking about why we read literature - for recognition, enchantment, knowledge, and shock
- Argues for a new “phenomenology” in literary studies that incorporates the historical and social dimensions of reading
- Includes examples of literature from a wide range of national literary traditions

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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FEATURES

- Explores the diverse motives and mysteries of why we read
- Seeks to bridge the gap between literary theory and common-sense beliefs about literature
- Offers four different ways of thinking about why we read literature - for recognition, enchantment, knowledge, and shock
- Argues for a new “phenomenology” in literary studies that incorporates the historical and social dimensions of reading
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