



## Images of Bliss: Ejaculation, Masculinity, Meaning

By Murat Aydemir

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Language: English . Brand New Book. Aristotle believed semen to be the purest of all bodily secretions, a vehicle for the spirit or psyche that gives form to substance. For Proust's narrator in *Swann's Way*, waking to find he has experienced a nocturnal emission, it is the product of some misplacing of my thigh. The heavy metal band Metallica used it to adorn an album cover. Beyond its biological function, semen has been applied with surprising frequency to metaphorical and narratological purposes. In *Images of Bliss*, Murat Aydemir undertakes an original and extensive analysis of images of male orgasm and semen. In a series of detailed case studies Aristotle's *On the Generation of Animals*; Andres Serrano's use of bodily fluids in his art; paintings by Holbein and Leonardo; Proust's *In Search of Lost Time*; hard-core pornography (both straight and gay); and key texts from the poststructuralist canon, including Lacan on the phallus, Bataille on expenditure, Barthes on bliss, and Derrida on dissemination Aydemir traces the complex and often contradictory possibilities for imagination, description, and cognition that both the...



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