Michael Martone: Fictions

By Michael Martone

The University of Alabama Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Michael Martone: Fictions, Michael Martone, "Michael Martone" is its own appendix, comprising fifty "contributors notes," each of which identifies in exorbitant biographical detail the author of the other forty-nine. It is full of fanciful anecdotes and preposterous reminiscences. Michael Martone's self-inventions include the multiple deaths of himself and all his family members, his Kafkaesque rebirth as a giant insect, and his stints as circus performer, assembly-line worker, photographer, and movie extra. Expect no autobiographical consistency here. A note revealing Martone's mother as the ghost-writer of all his books precedes the note beginning, "Michael Martone, an orphan." We learn of Martone's university career and sketchy formal education, his misguided caretaking of his teacher John Barth's lawn, and his impersonation of a poor African republic in political science class, where Martone's population is allowed to starve as his more fortunate fellow republics fight over development and natural resource trading-cards. The author of "Michael Martone", whose other names include Missy, Dolly, Peanut, Bug, Gigi-tone, Tony's boy, Patty's boy, Junior's, Mickey, Monk, Mr Martone, and "the contributor named in this note," proves as Protean as fiction itself, continuously transforming the past with every...

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