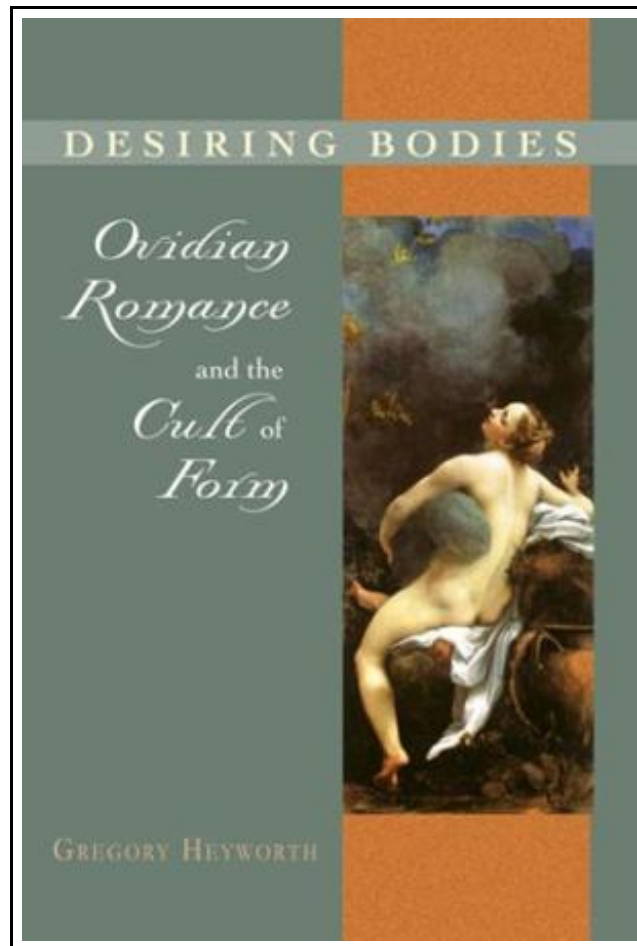


Desiring Bodies: Ovidian Romance and the Cult of Form



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A must buy book if you need to adding benefit. Better then never, though i am quite late in start reading this one. I am very happy to inform you that this is basically the very best book we have study during my own life and could be he finest ebook for possibly.

(Rodger Hane)

DESIRING BODIES: OVIDIAN ROMANCE AND THE CULT OF FORM



University of Notre Dame Press, United States, 2009. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 226 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Gregory Heyworth's *Desiring Bodies* considers the physical body and its relationship to poetic and corporate bodies in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Beginning in the odd contest between body and form in the first sentence of Ovid's protean *Metamorphoses*, Heyworth identifies these concepts as structuring principles of civic and poetic unity and pursues their consequences as refracted through a series of romances, some typical of the genre, some problematically so. Bodies, in Ovidian romance, are the objects of human desire to possess, to recover, to form, or to violate. Part 1 examines this desire as both a literal and a socio-political phenomenon through readings of Marie de France's *Lais*, Chretien de Troyes' *Cliges* and *Perceval*, and Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, texts variously expressing social, economic, and political culture in romance. In part 2, Heyworth is concerned with missing or absent bodies in Petrarch's *Rime sparse*, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Milton's *Paradise Lost* and the generic rupture they cause in lyric, tragedy, and epic. Throughout, Heyworth draws on social theorists such as Kant, Weber, Simmel, and Elias to explore the connection between social and literary form. The first comparative, diachronic study of romance form in many years, *Desiring Bodies* is a persuasive and important cultural history that demonstrates Ovid's pervasive influence not only on the poetics but on the politics of the medieval and early modern Western tradition.



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