



Sexual Violence and Literary Art

By Peter Robinson

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Addresses the complicity of representation in what is represented, and its creative transformations, by re-examining classic poetic, dramatic and fictional texts by men in light of women's philosophical, theoretical and critical responses to them.

Written by a practising poet and novelist who has close experience of the subject matter and has published creative work in the areas being examined, *Sexual Violence and Literary Art* is a wide-ranging study, covering carefully selected works from Ovid through Shakespeare to Pope, Richardson, Shelley, Hardy, Nabokov and beyond. It addresses the necessary complicity of any representation in what is represented, by examining ways in which canonical male writers have attempted to evoke and address representations of sexual violence in poetry, prose fiction, and poetic drama in light of women's philosophical, theoretical and critical responses to these works of literary art.

Readership

University-level undergraduates, postgraduate and post-doctoral students, academics and interested scholars, practitioners in a range of arts and genres, and general readers interested in overlapping philosophical, aesthetic, art historical and literary areas.

Contents

Introduction: Experience and Point of View; 2. 'And Still She Cried': Two Allusions to Ovid; 3. Talking Yourself to Death: The Rape of Lucrece; 4. Innocence, Sincerity, and Bodies in *The Rape of the Lock*; 5. Private Violence and Public Meaning: Clarissa; 6. 'Touched Very Delicately': Shelley's *The Cenci*; 7. 'A Blank to Me': Thomas Hardy and the Loss of Meaning; 8. 'Readings Will Grow Erratic' in Philip Larkin's 'Deceptions'; 9. The Rape of Dolly Haze; or, Rorty on Nabokov; 10. 'And Still the World Pursues': Conclusions; Bibliography.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Author of many books of poetry, translation, fiction and literary criticism, Peter Robinson is a professor of American literature at the University of Reading and poetry editor for Two Rivers Press.

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