



Inside the Carnival: Unmasking Louisiana Politics (Paperback)

By Wayne Parent

Louisiana State University Press, United States, 2006. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. A prominent Louisiana political scientist makes plain the reasons for the state s political peculiarities. In the popular American imagination, Louisiana may come closer than any other state to offering the experience of a foreign culture--a Spanish-moss-draped netherland filled with friendly but vaguely threatening Cajuns, seething creature-infested swamps, the whirling masked chaos of Mardi Gras, seductive N awlins cadences, and most vividly, even pruriently, the train wreck of Louisiana politics: cash-under-the-table shenanigans, fat and sassy environmental polluters, devil-and-the-deep-bluesea electoral choices like the 1991 gubernatorial runoff between the Klan-tainted David Duke and the criminally indicated Edwin Edwards. Wayne Parent sees all of this clearly with both an entertainer s eye and a social scientist s rigor. He subjects Louisiana s politics to rational and empirical analysis, seeking and finding coherent reasons for the state s bizarre spectacle without resorting to vague hand-waving about exoticism, while at the same time bringing to life the juicy stories that illustrate his points. Parent s main theme is that Louisiana s ethnic mix, natural resources, and geography define a culture that in turn produces its unique political theater. He...



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