



Savoring Power, Consuming the Times: The Metaphors of Food in Medieval and Renaissance Italian Literature (Paperback)

By Pina Palma

University of Notre Dame Press, United States, 2013. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Pina Palma s Savoring Power, Consuming the Times: The Metaphors of Food in Medieval and Renaissance Italian Literature is an innovative look at the writings of five important Italian authors-Boccaccio s Decameron, Pulci s Morgante, Boiardo s Innamorato, Ariosto s Furioso, and Aretino s Ragionamento. Through the prism of gastronomy, Palma examines these key works in the Western literary canon, bringing into focus how their authors use food and gastronomy as a means to critique the social, political, theological, philosophical, and cultural beliefs that constitute the fabric of the society in which they live. Palma begins with the anthropological principle that food represents the universal transformation of nature into culture and that it functions as a language that distinguishes every society and its culture from others. This suggests that food-its preparation, presentation, and consumption-is more than merely a source of nourishment. Rather, Palma argues, foodstuffs function as ethical and aesthetic instruments through which the literary hero s virtues and flaws, achievements and failures, can be gauged. Food also serves as a means to maintain, as well as to negotiate, power, social hierarchy, and relationships...



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