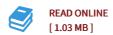




Rest in Peace: A Cultural History of Death and the Funeral Home in Twentieth-Century America

By Associate Professor of American Religious History and Culture Gary Laderman

Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 2005. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 223 x 145 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ****** Print on Demand ******. Though it has often been passionately criticized-as fraudulent, exploitative, even pagan-the American funeral home has become nearly as inevitable as death itself, an institution firmly embedded in our culture. But how did the funeral home come to hold such a position? What is its history? And is it guilty of the charges sometimes leveled against it? In Rest in Peace, Gary Laderman traces the origins of American funeral rituals, from the evolution of embalming techniques during and after the Civil War and the shift from home funerals to funeral homes at the turn of the century, to the increasing subordination of priests, ministers, and other religious figures to the funeral director throughout the twentieth century. In doing so he shows that far from manipulating vulnerable mourners, as Jessica Mitford claimed in her best-selling The American Way of Death (1963), funeral directors are highly respected figures whose services reflect the community s deepest needs and wishes. Indeed, Laderman shows that funeral directors generally give the people what they want when it is time to bury our...



Reviews

This book is definitely not straightforward to get started on studying but extremely exciting to read. It is really simplistic but shocks in the 50 percent of the ebook. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.

-- Ally Reiche

This publication is amazing. It is definitely basic but shocks in the fifty percent of your publication. You wont feel monotony at anytime of your own time (that's what catalogues are for concerning if you question me).

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