



The Genuine Article: Race, Mass Culture, and American Literary Manhood (New Americanists)

Paul Gilmore

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In *The Genuine Article* Paul Gilmore examines the interdependence of literary and mass culture at a crucial moment in U. S. history. Demonstrating from a new perspective the centrality of race to the construction of white manhood across class lines, Gilmore argues that in the years before the Civil War, as literature increasingly became another commodity in the capitalist cultural marketplace, American authors appropriated middle-brow and racially loaded cultural forms to bolster their masculinity.

From characters in Indian melodramas and minstrel shows to exhibits in popular museums and daguerrotype galleries, primitive racialized figures circulated as “the genuine article” of manliness in the antebellum United States. Gilmore argues that these figures were manipulated, translated, and adopted not only by canonical authors such as Hawthorne, Thoreau, Cooper, and Melville but also by African American and Native American writers like William Wells Brown and Okah Tubbee. By examining how these cultural notions of race played out in literary texts and helped to construct authorship as a masculine profession, Gilmore makes a unique contribution to theories of class formation in nineteenth-century America.

The Genuine Article will enrich students and scholars of American studies, gender studies, literature, history, sociology, anthropology, popular culture, and race.

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Joseph Vest:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them household or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent the entire day to reading a reserve. The book The Genuine Article: Race, Mass Culture, and American Literary Manhood (New Americanists) it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book out of your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book offers high quality.

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