Sublime Surrender: Male Masochism At The Fin-de-siècle

by Suzanne Stewart-Steinberg

Suzanne R. Stewart examines the discourse generated by and about certain men between 1848 and 1890. She shows how masochism was a part of, and contributed to, the cultural imaginary in fin-de-siècle France. Stewart uses a wide range of sources, including novels, short stories, articles, and letters to construct her argument that masochism was linked to cultural anxieties, the rise of professionalism, and the development of individualism. She also argues that masochism was part of the construction of the modern male subject. Sublime Surrender: Male Masochism At The Fin-de-siècle is a groundbreaking study of a little-known but important aspect of fin-de-siècle culture.