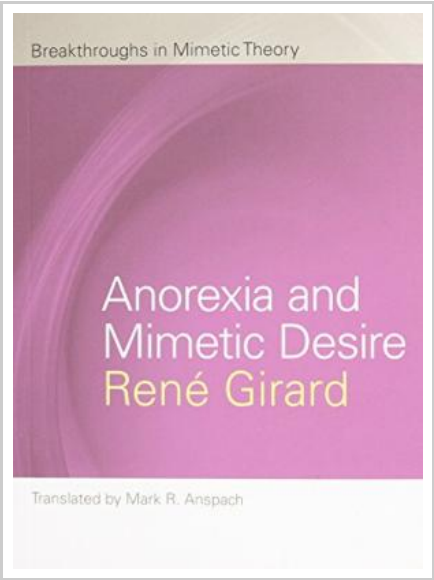

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Anorexia and Mimetic Desire

By Rene Girard, Mark R. Anspach

Michigan State University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Anorexia and Mimetic Desire, Rene Girard, Mark R. Anspach, Rene Girard shows that all desires are contagious--and the desire to be thin is no exception. In this compelling new book, Girard ties the anorexia epidemic to what he calls mimetic desire: a desire imitated from a model. Girard has long argued that, far from being spontaneous, our most intimate desires are copied from what we see around us. In a culture obsessed with thinness, the rise of eating disorders should be no surprise. When everyone is trying to slim down, Girard asks, how can we convince anorexic patients to have a healthy outlook on eating? Mixing theoretical sophistication with irreverent common sense, Girard denounces a "culture of anorexia" and takes apart the competitive impulse that fuels the game of conspicuous non-consumption. He shows that showing off a slim physique is not enough--the real aim is to be skinnier than one's rivals. In the race to lose the most weight, the winners are bound to be thinner and thinner. Taken to extremes, this tendency to escalation can only lead to tragic results. Featuring a foreword by neuropsychiatrist Jean-Michel Oughourlian and an...

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Reviews

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This written publication is fantastic. I am quite late in start reading this one, but better then never. You will not feel monotony at at any time of your respective time (that's what catalogues are for concerning should you ask me).

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