



Baudelaire's Prose Poems: The Esthetic, the Ethical, and the Religious in "the Parisian Prowler"

By Edward K. Kaplan

University of Georgia Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Baudelaire's Prose Poems: The Esthetic, the Ethical, and the Religious in "the Parisian Prowler", Edward K. Kaplan, "Baudelaire's Prose Poems" is the first full-length, integral study of the fifty prose poems Baudelaire wrote between 1857 and his death in 1867, collected posthumously under the title "Le Spleen de Paris." Edward Kaplan resurrects this neglected masterpiece by defining the structure and meaning of the entire collection, which Kaplan himself has translated as "The Parisian Prowler." Engaging in a dialogue with deconstructionists whose critical methods often obscure the meaning of the whole, Kaplan rejects the view of prose poems as a random assemblage of melodic rhapsodies. Instead, he sees a coherent ensemble of "fables of modern life" that join lyricism and critical self-awareness. Kaplan defines three dimensions of experience that inform "The Parisian Prowler" from beginning to end: the esthetic includes art, ideal beauty, and especially the intense immediacy of sensations, fantasy, and dream; the ethical includes principles of right and wrong, relations between intimates or between individuals and the community; and the religious--not to be confused with church or dogma--points to the province of ultimate reality, whether it be God or an...



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