



Curative Illnesses: Medico-National Allegory in Quebecois Fiction (Hardback)

By Julie Robert

McGill-Queen's University Press, Canada, 2016. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 661 x 231 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. During a time of uncertainty over collective identity and social transformation, Quebec novels started getting sick - after 1940, the number of narratives about illness, disease, and sick characters intensified. For the last seventy years, generations of authors have turned to medically oriented stories to represent day to day life and political turmoil. In *Curative Illnesses*, Julie Robert investigates how the theme of sickness is woven into literature and gauges its effect on depictions of Quebec's national identity. Challenging the legitimacy of illness as a metaphor for the nation, Robert contests interpretations of illness-related literature that have presented Quebec itself as ailing. Through re-examinations of Quebec novels, *Curative Illnesses* shatters the illusion of congruency between the nation and the body, countering assumptions about nationwide weakness and victimization. For Quebec in particular, these assumptions have greater implications, because the separatist movement, policies of interculturalism, and majority language rights revolve around protecting and defending Quebecois society and its cultural values. Robert skilfully demonstrates a more nuanced view of illness through a series of analyses focusing on works of literature from some...



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