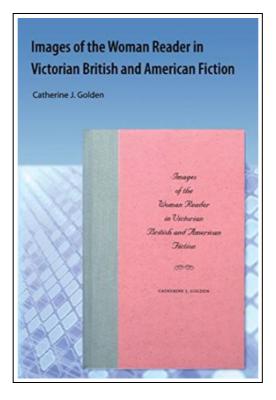
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IMAGES OF THE WOMAN READER IN VICTORIAN BRITISH AND AMERICAN FICTION (PAPERBACK)



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Orange Grove Books, United States, 2009. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. By comparing ideologies surrounding women and books on both sides of the Atlantic, it offers new interpretations of canonical texts in a series of fascinating pairings of British and American texts. . . . The most original aspect of the book is its examination of the woman reader as she appeared in illustrations in popular novels and the way illustration functioned as a vehicle for illuminating issues of gender. --Emma Liggins, coeditor of Feminist Readings of Victorian Popular Texts, Edge Hill College of Higher Education, Lancashire, U.K. Argues persuasively that female reading practice was highly varied and hotly contested in this period and that this fact gave rise to a wide range of artistic representations. By examining visual as well as verbal material, she distinguishes her analysis and appeals to a wide scholarly audience. --Linda J. Docherty, Bowdoin College For Victorian women, danger lurked between the covers of a book. In an exploration of this controversial notion, Catherine Golden examines women and reading in literary and visual representations in Britain and America. Illustrated with 42 pictures by popular and renowned artists of the era, her book vividly brings to life the world of the 19th- and early 20th-century female reader. While industrialization was transforming print culture, Victorian women on both sides of the Atlantic made great strides in education, and reading came to be seen as a mark of gentility and a means to promote family unity. But at the same time, a perceived association between excessive novel reading and ill health raised alarm: the prospect of unchecked reading coupled with an overactive imagination led critics to debate if, what, when, where, and why middle- and upper-class women should read....



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