



The Making of Salem: The Witch Trials in History, Fiction and Tourism

By Robin Derosa

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The Salem Witch Trials of 1692 are a case study in hysteria and group psychology, and the cultural effects still linger centuries later. This critical study examines original trial transcripts, historical accounts, fiction and drama, film and television shows, and tourist sites in contemporary Salem, challenging the process of how history is collected and recorded. Drawing from literary and historical theory, as well as from performance studies, the book offers a new definition of history and uses Salem as a tool for rethinking the relationships between the truth and the stories people tell about the past.

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Review

"a clever re-examination of the processes and products of writing history"--*Choice*.

About the Author

Robin DeRosa is an associate professor of English at Plymouth State University in New Hampshire. She edited the collection *Assimilation and Subversion in Earlier American Literature* and has contributed essays to *American Indian Rhetorics of Survivance*, *Women as Sites of Culture*, *Postscript: A Journal of Criticism and Theory*, *In-Between: Essays and Studies in Literary Criticism*, and *The Rocky Mountain Review of Language and Literature*.

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