



The Gray Book Meridian Crossing Aesthetics

By Aris Fioretos

Stanford University Press. Paperback. Condition: New. 168 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.6in. x 0.4in. Generally considered the least lively and most bleak of casts, gray is the taint of vagueness and uncertainty. Marking the threshold region where luminous life seems suspended but death has not yet darkened the horizon, it belongs to an evasive and evanescent world, carrying the tint of smoke, fog, ashes, and dust. As the ambiguous space of thought and remembrance where things blend and blur, gray measures the difference between distance and proximity, shading into tinges of hesitation, hues of taciturnity, tones of time past and lost. Thus it may also be the spectral medium of literature itself that grainy gas of language. Written with a lead pencil akin to those found in Nabokov, Rilke, Svevo, Poe, and Dickinson, *The Gray Book* chronicles the vicissitudes of such equivocal articulation registering the graphite traces it leaves behind but also recording the dwindling span of its life. The book situates itself in a region beyond criticism but this side of literature, characterized by forgetting and finitude, and investigating important yet seemingly inaccessible gray areas in texts as old as those of Homer, and as recent as those of Beckett. Loosely arranging...



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