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## Criminality and Narrative in Eighteenth-Century England: Beyond the Law (Hardback)

By Hal Gladfelder

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY PRESS, United States, 2001. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Stories of transgression-Gilgamesh, Prometheus, Oedipus, Eve-may be integral to every culture s narrative imaginings of its own origins, but such stories assumed different meanings with the burgeoning interest in modern histories of crime and punishment in the later decades of the seventeenth century. In *Criminality and Narrative in Eighteenth-Century England*, Hal Gladfelder shows how the trial report, providence book, criminal biography, and gallows speech came into new commercial prominence and brought into focus what was most disturbing, and most exciting, about contemporary experience. These narratives of violence, theft, disruptive sexuality, and rebellion compelled their readers to sort through fragmentary or contested evidence, anticipating the openness to discordant meanings and discrepant points of view which characterizes the later fictions of Defoe and Fielding. Beginning with the various genres of crime narrative, Gladfelder maps a complex network of discourses that collectively embodied the range of responses to the transgressive at the turn of the eighteenth century. In the book s second and third parts, he demonstrates how the discourses of criminality became enmeshed with emerging novelistic conceptions of character and narrative form. With special attention to Colonel...



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