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Incest and the Medieval ImaginationJames Baldwin and Toni
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Lutheran WitnessEssays on ChaucerEssays on Chaucer Elizabeth
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incest is a remarkably frequent theme in medieval literature it occurs in a wide range of genres including romances saints s lives and exempla historically the church in the later middle ages was very concerned about breaches of the complex laws against incest which was defined very broadly at the time to cover family relationships outside the nuclear family and also spiritual relationships through baptism medieval writers accepted that incestuous desire was a widespread phenomenon among women as well as men they are surprisingly open about incest though of course they disapprove of it in many exemplary stories incest is identified with original sin but the moral emphasizes the

importance of contrition and the availability of grace even to such heinous sinners this study begins with a brief account of the development of medieval incest laws and the extent to which they were obeyed next comes a survey of classical incest stories and their legacy many were retold in the middle ages but they were frequently adapted to the purposes of christian moralizers in the three chapters that follow homegrown medieval incest stories are grouped by relationship mother son focusing on the gregorius legend father daughter focusing on la manekine and its analogues and sibling focusing on the arthurian legend the final chapter considers the very common medieval trope of the virgin mary as mother daughter sister and bride of christ the one exception to the incest taboo in western society today incest has recently been recognized as a serious social problem and has also become a frequent theme in both fiction and non fiction just as it was in the middle ages this interdisciplinary study is the first broad survey of medieval incest stories in latin and the vernaculars mainly french english and german it situates the incest theme in both literary and cultural contexts and offers many thought provoking comparisons and contrasts to our own society in terms of gender relations the power of patriarchy the role of religious institutions in regulating morality and the relationship between life and literature

this collection of comparative critical and theoretical essays examines james baldwin and toni morrison s reciprocal literary relationship by reading these authors side by side this collection forges new avenues of discovery and interpretation related to their representations of african american and american literature and cultural experience

childhood abuse can consist of many different experiences adults who have lived through experiences of abuse are often referred to as adult survivors of childhood abuse statistics are difficult to obtain because of the secrecy and shame that often surround such abuse but we do know that such abuse occurs in all races religions and economic classes to the outside world she was a bright popular all american adolescent but at home behind closed doors lived another katherine shamed isolated afraid locked in a forbidden embrace from which there was no escape it was a secret too terrible to silence it had to surface shattering her life changing it radically but with its release bringing at last a new hope not just to katherine and her family but to all the katherine bradys everywhere who will recognize themselves s they

read her story

an exploration of how specific historical contexts narrative conventions and cultural politics shape the ways that stories of incest are told and heard

by analyzing how various media told stories about jewish celebrities and incest unsettling illustrates how jewish community protective politics impacted the representation of white male jewish masculinity in the 1990s chapters on woody allen roseanne barr and henry roth demonstrate how media coverage of their respective incest denials allen allegations barr and confessions roth intersect with a history of sexual antisemitism while an introductory chapter on jewish second wave feminist criticism of sigmund freud considers how freud became white in these discussions unsettling reveals how film tv and literature have helped displace once prevalent antisemitic stereotypes onto those who are non jewish nonwhite and poor in considering how whiteness functions for an ethnoreligious group with historic vulnerability to incest stereotype as well as contemporary white privilege unsettling demonstrates how white jewish men accused of incest and even those who defiantly confess it became improbably representing sympathetic figures supposed white vulnerability

this provocative study of gender and sexuality in contemporary japan investigates elements of japanese popular culture including erotic comic books stories of mother son incest lunchboxes or obentos that mothers ritualistically prepare for schoolchildren and children s cartoons anne allison brings recent feminist psychoanalytic and marxist theory to bear on representations of sexuality motherhood and gender in these and other aspects of japanese culture based on five years of fieldwork in a middle class tokyo neighborhood this theoretically informed accessible ethnographic study provides a provocative analysis of how sexuality dominance and desire are reproduced and enacted in late capitalistic japan this provocative study of gender and sexuality in contemporary japan investigates elements of japanese popular culture including erotic comic books stories of mother son incest lunchboxes or obentos that mothers ritualistically prepare for school

this book is part of the continuing effort by the university center for women s studies to examine the other dimensions and forms of gender violence it deals with topics that have not been adequately studied in the past girlfriend battering student prostitution and incest

everyman s guide to the mysteries of agatha christie is a reference book covering christie s 238 stories it provides data never before published about both important and trivial facts dedications time periods and locations have been laboriously researched and provided with time warp explanations even trivial data such as newspapers 100 in all pubs 95 and automobiles 136 are shown as well as each story in which they are listed english sayings totalling 259 are shown with the book s in which they appear including a brief explanation of their meaning yet guide is much more than a list of facts it is an informative reference book about christie's writings as well different perspectives on many of the perplexing mysteries within her mysteries are provided finally guide is not an alphabetical list of stories or characters instead it lists many entrancing errors of sketches and text with comments explaining where possible the reasons for their existence most importantly guide does not betray any book s endings nor the identity of the villain a rule that genuine christie devotees always try to uphold

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