



A Sense of Wonder: Samuel R. Delany, Race, Identity and Difference

By Jeffrey A. Tucker

University Press of New England. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, A Sense of Wonder: Samuel R. Delany, Race, Identity and Difference, Jeffrey A. Tucker, Samuel R. Delany is one of today's most interesting writers. African-American and gay, Delany crosses boundaries - generic (science fiction, memoir, theory, pornography) and academic (literary studies, cultural studies, African-American studies, gay and lesbian studies). Critics both black and white have read Delany as a writer who downplays his racial identity in order to aspire to universal values. In contrast, A Sense of Wonder shows how Delany's works participate in African-American cultural traditions. The book begins with an analysis of Delany's Dhalgren (1975), using the novel's links to black cultural traditions as the key to unlocking its puzzling content. Jeffrey Allen Tucker's reading of the four-volume Return to Neveryon series places Delany's explorations of semiotics in dialogue with Frederick Douglass's 1845 Narrative and social histories on slavery in America. From there, Tucker moves to Delany's ground-breaking autobiography, The Motion of Light in Water, his experimental novella Atlantis: Model, 1925, and to his pornographic novel, The Mad Man. Tucker's aim is to advance a reading of identity that acknowledges its multiplicity and permeability without emptying it...

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