



Hillbilly: A Cultural History of an American Icon

Anthony Harkins

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In this pioneering work of cultural history, historian Anthony Harkins argues that the hillbilly—in his various guises of "briar hopper," "brush ape," "ridge runner," and "white trash"—has been viewed by mainstream Americans simultaneously as a violent degenerate who threatens the modern order and as a keeper of traditional values of family, home, and physical production, and thus symbolic of a nostalgic past free of the problems of contemporary life. "Hillbilly" signifies both rugged individualism and stubborn backwardness, strong family and kin networks but also inbreeding and bloody feuds. Spanning film, literature, and the entire expanse of American popular culture, from D. W. Griffith to hillbilly music to the Internet, Harkins illustrates how the image of the hillbilly has consistently served as both a marker of social derision and regional pride. He traces the corresponding changes in representations of the hillbilly from late-nineteenth century America, through the great Depression, the mass migrations of Southern Appalachians in the 1940s and 1950s, the War on Poverty in the mid 1960s, and to the present day. Harkins also argues that images of hillbillies have played a critical role in the construction of whiteness and modernity in twentieth century America. Richly illustrated with dozens of photographs, drawings, and film and television stills, this unique book stands as a testament to the enduring place of the hillbilly in the American imagination.

Hillbilly received an Honorable Mention, John G. Cawelti Book Award of the American Culture Association.

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Precisely why? Because this Hillbilly: A Cultural History of an American Icon is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap this but latter it will jolt you with the secret that inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who else write the book in such awesome way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of gains than the other book possess such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to delay having that book? If I were you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

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Hillbilly: A Cultural History of an American Icon can be one of your starter books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to place every word into pleasure arrangement in writing Hillbilly: A Cultural History of an American Icon although doesn't forget the main place, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource details that maybe you can be among it. This great information could drawn you into fresh stage of crucial imagining.

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