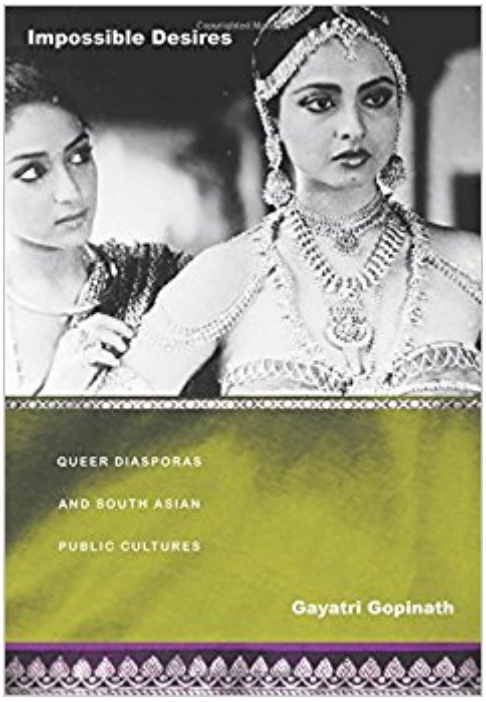
Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Impossible Desires: Queer Diasporas And South Asian Public Cultures (Perverse Modernities: A Series Edited By Jack Halberstam And Lisa Lowe)



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

By bringing queer theory to bear on ideas of diaspora, Gayatri Gopinath produces both a more compelling queer theory and a more nuanced understanding of diaspora. Focusing on queer female diasporic subjectivity, Gopinath develops a theory of diaspora apart from the logic of blood, authenticity, and patrilineal descent that she argues invariably forms the core of conventional formulations. She examines South Asian diasporic literature, film, and music in order to suggest alternative ways of conceptualizing community and collectivity across disparate geographic locations. Her agile readings challenge nationalist ideologies by bringing to light that which has been rendered illegible or impossible within diaspora: the impure, inauthentic, and nonreproductive.Gopinath juxtaposes diverse texts to indicate the range of oppositional practices, subjectivities, and visions of collectivity that fall outside not only mainstream narratives of diaspora, colonialism, and nationalism but also most projects of liberal feminism and gay and lesbian politics and theory. She considers British Asian music of the 1990s alongside alternative media and cultural practices. Among the fictional works she discusses are V. S. NaipaulÃ¢â ¬â„¢s classic novel A House for Mr. Biswas, Ismat ChughtaiÃ¢â ¬â„¢s short story Ã¢â ¬Å“The Quilt,Ã¢â ¬Â• Monica AliÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Brick Lane, Shyam SelvaduraiÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Funny Boy, and Shani MootooÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Cereus Blooms at Night. Analyzing films including Deepa MehtaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s controversial Fire and Mira NairÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Monsoon Wedding, she pays particular attention to how South Asian diasporic feminist filmmakers have reworked BollywoodÃ¢â ¬â„¢s strategies of queer representation and to what is lost or gained in this process of translation. GopinathÃ¢â ¬â„¢s readings are dazzling, and her theoretical framework transformative and far-reaching.

Book Information

Series: Perverse Modernities: A Series Edited by Jack Halberstam and Lisa Lowe

Paperback: 264 pages

Publisher: Duke University Press Books (April 19, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0822335131

ISBN-13: 978-0822335139

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.7 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #403,641 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #149 inÃ Â Books > Textbooks >

Social Sciences > Gay & Lesbian Studies #677 inÃ Â Books > Gay & Lesbian > Nonfiction > LGBT Studies #740 inÃ Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Emigration & Immigration

Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“Boldly spanning Hindi film, British Asian music, Urdu literature, diasporic postcolonial literature and film, U.S. queer activism, and feminist politics, Gayatri Gopinath argues that queer desire becomes central to the ways in which national and diasporic histories are told when the erotics of power is acknowledged. Impossible Desires is a deft demonstration of both queer theoryÃ¢â ¬â„¢s dominant ethnocentrism and diaspora and postcolonial studiesÃ¢â ¬â„¢ heteronormativity and androcentrism.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Ranjana Khanna, author of Dark Continents: Psychoanalysis and ColonialismÃ¢â ¬Å“Gayatri GopinathÃ¢â ¬â„¢s innovative book marks a new stage in queer and diasporic studies. Incisive, expansive, and nuanced, GopinathÃ¢â ¬â„¢s analysis will surely be invoked by academics in the future. A landmark piece of scholarship!Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Martin F. Manalansan IV, author of Global Divas: Filipino Gay Men in the DiasporaÃ¢â ¬Å“[T]his smart and well-written book signals a sea change in the field. . . . Impossible Desires stands as a pathbreaking work, addressing persistent exclusions in both feminist and queer literatures on South Asian public culture and significantly reworking current conceptualizations of diaspora.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Lawrence Cohen Journal of Asian Studies)

"Boldly spanning Hindi film, British Asian music, Urdu literature, diasporic postcolonial literature and film, U.S. queer activism, and feminist politics, Gayatri Gopinath argues that queer desire becomes central to the ways in which national and diasporic histories are told when the erotics of power is acknowledged. "Impossible Desires" is a deft demonstration of both queer theory’s dominant ethnocentrism and diaspora and postcolonial studies’ heteronormativity and androcentrism."--Ranjana Khanna, author of "Dark Continents: Psychoanalysis and Colonialism"

This book was disappointing. I was expecting it to detail LGBT life in South Asia in a more anthropological way. Instead it is just a bunch of pop culture references.

This is one of those books that has wonderful "multi-tasking" powers! I taught it in two courses, one an undergraduate portal course for women’s studies majors and an interdisciplinary graduate course on queers and theory. It worked very well in both courses, and as the teacher I learned so

much myself using this book in both venues.I also myself love this book!For my own experience and pleasure I downloaded and watched as much of the music and as many of the films as I could get a hold of. I did play and show elements of these to my classes, and urged them with some success to connect with these materials themselves.I was excited when both classes used these contacts to then enlarge their own interests along new lines having once seen or played songs, music, films, literatures. References to more of this stuff were especially common in the undergraduate course for the rest of the semester. Interestingly enough it was students from former republics of the former soviet union who were especially interested in some of this South Asian diasporic cultural work.I was quite envious of the straightforward and yet elaborated structure of argument of this book: it centers around, although extends beyond the film Fire and all the ramifications and contextualizations one needs to grasp in order to engage queer diasporic female subjectivities. I was able to outline this structure carefully in the undergraduate course, and the students were able to follow it pretty well; I was pleased with the sophistication it helped them develop.But when I took for granted the graduate students would themselves see and analyze this structure - it seemed obvious in the nicest way - I found I had misunderstood what they would focus upon. They loved all the details and were less willing or maybe less interested in managing the threads of interconnection. I am still not sure if they were onto something I was not, or whether I just didn't prepare them properly to see how it was put together.You could say this is a great "text" for a class (not textbook of course), but it is also a lot of fun to read if you are interested in knowing more about or analyzing yourself South Asian diasporic art and literature, film, and music, and want to ponder the travels of these materials.It is also quite profound in its analysis of many layers of the what the term "queer" could mean, does mean, has meant, should have meant, might mean in the future, means to many disparate folks in a range of places, disciplines, politics, art worlds, analytic frameworks, cultural studies and so on. It's not that it analyzes such positions exhaustively - although there are some pretty thorough examinations of the play of such meanings across a set of works - but rather that it models a kind of analysis that is, as I say, profound, and also, dare I say, fun.

I learnt so much from the way Gopinath intervenes in cultural studies of diaspora and queer studies. Her readings are beautifully framed and precise, and very attuned to the gaps and silences in given approaches. But Gopinath does much more than identify these gaps and silences, she makes a compelling case for why queer feminism is a necessary intervention that will enrich diasporic studies and interrupt its tendencies towards nostalgic nationalism. Her conception of queer desire in the

diaspora is profound, and serves as a model for connecting desires to histories

University of California Davis's Women's Studies Professor Gayatri Gopinath, has written an impressive academic text entitled, Impossible Desires: Queer Diasporas and South Asian Public Cultures. Gopinath combines her knowledge of women's studies with her interests in a variety of academic fields on popular culture, race-sexuality, migration and South Asian cultural literature. She introduces several ways of identity formation and mediation of the "racialized" and Queer South Asian body by incorporating both feminist and queer theory within her analysis. In critical theory, the term "Queer" is a signifier of a complex defiant attitude that destabilizes any and all traditional notions of identity. It works to disrupt anything that appears too heteronormative, too "commonsensical," and too constructed. Gopinath explains that it "works to name the alternative reading of the diaspora and to dislodge it from its adherence and loyalty to nationalist ideologies that are fully aligned with the interests of transnational capitalism" (11). As a South Asian Queer feminist, Gopinath not only possess valuable critical insight, her identity gives Impossible Desires its authenticity.The first chapter is an introduction in which Gopinath immediately brings the reader into a specific moment during the film entitled, "My Beautiful Launderette" (1985) a controversial and "groundbreaking" movie about two gay men in an interracial relationship; one male is white, Johnny and the other, Omar, is Pakistani. The movie's representation of Omar's body reverses the spectators gaze by re-situating Omar into a position of the subject and Johnny becomes the object of the spectators gaze. She describes the "queer diasporic body," as a text-- where the histories of rampant discrimination and colonialism are clearly "written" on the body. According to Gopinath, "Queer and diasporic cultural forms and practices point to submerged histories of racist and colonialist violence that continue to resonate in the present that make themselves felt though bodily desire"(4). This is an interesting statement because she describes the unstable relationship between the external and the internal parts of the "material" body, which she addresses again in the next two chapters. For Gopinath, the body they experience and conceptualize is continuously mediated by heterosexual and nationalistic constructions and popular images of culture.Chapter 2 entitled Queer Communities of Sound examines the ways in which popular Bhangra Music and Post Bhangra Asian music allow her to situate "gender and sexuality at the very center of our understandings of diaspora, nation and globalization"(31). During the 1970s through the 1990s, Bhangra music, resonated across the world's national borders. Their songs revealed a sense growing resentment against the growing cultural conservatism in the United States and Britain and they also revealed a desire to find a homeland. Despite their radical message, Gopinath argued that

their "nostalgic evocation of the homeland was mobilized through the fixed, static figure of the female, the emblem of tradition and (sexual and moral) purity." Their problematic message of an idealized woman reinforces "patrilinity and organic heterosexuality." She works in opposition to this tendency by applying Queer theory to the dialogue in order to draw attention to the "feminist diasporic cultural practices" that offer an alternative perspective.In Chapter 3 Surviving Naipaul, Gopinath dissects three different texts:Surviving Sabu (1996), a film by Ian Rashid, a gay Indonesian/Canadian from the UK; A novel entitled Mr. Biswas (1961), by V.S. Naipaul and East is East (2000) a film created by Damian O'Donnell. She explains how such films rely on the invisibility of a female subject in order to distinguish the gay male diasporic identity (64-65). Gopinath transfers the attention to the women by employing both feminist and queer theory in her analysis. Much of this chapter focuses on the different "modes" of producing an identity of subjectivity. Perhaps the most important concept in this chapter is that of "disidentification" which is defined as the "third mode of dealing with dominant ideology, one that neither opts to assimilate within such a structure nor strictly opposes it; [...] a strategy that works on and against dominant ideology" (68). According toGopinath, this strategy is not repression, but rather an awareness of self-- that people can define who they are, by who they are not and their social and individual identities overlap resulting in multiple identity formations.Gayatri Gopinath addresses the various ways in which a queer diasporic female subjectivity can surface within a heteronormative, nationalistic environment, through her critique of South Asian popular cultural representations of the female body. South Asian films, novels and music, as revolutionary as they are, depend on the "erasure" or "invisibility" of the female subject. In Impossible Desires, Gayatri Gopinath offers a systematic critique that aims to deconstruct the knowledge and values of a dominant heterosexual nation.

Download to continue reading...

Impossible Desires: Queer Diasporas and South Asian Public Cultures (Perverse Modernities: A Series Edited by Jack Halberstam and Lisa Lowe) Time Binds: Queer Temporalities, Queer Histories (Perverse Modernities: A Series Edited by Jack Halberstam and Lisa Lowe) Arresting Dress: Cross-Dressing, Law, and Fascination in Nineteenth-Century San Francisco (Perverse Modernities: A Series Edited by Jack Halberstam and Lisa Lowe) Queen for a Day: Transformistas, Beauty Queens, and the Performance of Femininity in Venezuela (Perverse Modernities: A Series Edited by Jack Halberstam and Lisa Lowe) Metroimperial Intimacies: Fantasy, Racial-Sexual Governance, and the Philippines in U.S. Imperialism, 1899-1913 (Perverse Modernities: A Series Edited by Jack Halberstam and Lisa Lowe) Easy Asian Cookbook: 200 Asian Recipes from Thailand, Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Vietnam, and the Philippines (Asian Cookbook, Asian Recipes,

Asian Cooking, ... Thai Recipes, Japanese Recipes Book 1) Death Quest: Kinky Killers, Twisted Desires & Perverse Passion New York Times Best Seller by L. Ron Hubbard: Mission Earth Volume 6 South Beach Diet: South Beach Diet Recipe Book: 50 Delicious & Easy South Beach Diet Recipes (south beach diet, south beach diet recipes, south beach diet beginners guide, south beach diet cookbook) Queer (In)Justice: The Criminalization of LGBT People in the United States (Queer Ideas/Queer Action) LISA GARDNER CHECKLIST SUMMARIES - D.D. WARREN, STANDALONE NOVELS, ALL OTHER SERIES LIST - UPDATED 2017: READING LIST, READER CHECKLIST FOR ALL LISA GARDNER FICTION (Ultimate Reading List Book 32) LISA GARDNER READING LIST WITH SUMMARIES FOR ALL NOVELS AND SHORT STORIES: READING LIST WITH SUMMARIES AND CHECKLIST INCLUDES ALL LISA GARDNER FICTION (Best Reading Order Book 38) Detective Jack Stratton Mystery Thriller Series: JACK KNIFED (Detective Jack Stratton Mystery-Thriller Series Book 2) The Impossible Lisa Barnes (Anika Scott Book 1) Asian Paleo: 30 Minute Paleo! Your Complete Guide to Delicious, Healthy, and Gluten Free Asian Paleo in 30 Minutes or Less (Asian Paleo Guide - Thai, Japanese, ... Korean, Filipino, and Vietnamese Recipes) Asian Paleo: 30 Minute Paleo! Your Complete Guide to Delicious, Healthy, and Gluten Free Asian Paleo in 30 Minutes or Less (Asian Paleo Guide - Thai, ... Korean, Filipino, and Vietnamese Recipes) Asian Salads Book: The Ultimate Asian Salad Dressing Cookbook and Best Asian Salad Recipes You Will Ever Find! Easy Asian Cookbook Box Set: Easy Korean Cookbook, Easy Filipino Cookbook, Easy Thai Cookbook, Easy Indonesian Cookbook, Easy Vietnamese Cookbook (Korean ... Recipes, Asian Recipes, Asian Cookbook 1) Three Jack Reacher Novellas (with bonus Jack Reacher’s Rules): Deep Down, Second Son, High Heat, and Jack Reacher’s Rules South Beach Diet: The South Beach Diet Beginners Guide to Losing Weight and Feeling Great! (south beach diet, south beach diet beginners guide, south beach diet recipes) At the Broken Places: A Mother and Trans Son Pick Up the Pieces (Queer Action/Queer Ideas, a Unique Series Addressing Pivotal Issues Within the Lgbtq Movement)

Contact Us

DMCA

Privacy

FAQ & Help