



Hearing Sappho in New Orleans: The Call of Poetry from Congo Square to the Ninth Ward (Southern Literary Studies)

Ruth Salvaggio

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While sifting through trash in her flooded New Orleans home, Ruth Salvaggio discovered an old volume of Sappho's poetry stained with muck and mold. In her efforts to restore the book, Salvaggio realized that the process reflected how Sappho's own words were unearthed from the refuse of the ancient world. Undertaking such a task in New Orleans, she sets out to recover the city's rich poetic heritage while searching through its flooded debris.

Hearing Sappho in New Orleans is at once a meditation on this poetic city, its many languages and cultures, and a history of its forgotten poetry. Using Sappho's fragments as a guide, Salvaggio roams the streets and neighborhoods of the city as she explores the migrations of lyric poetry from ancient Greece through the African slave trade to indigenous America and ultimately to New Orleans.

The book also directs us to the lyric call of poetry, the voice always in search of a listener. Writing in a post-Katrina landscape, Salvaggio recovers and ponders the social consequences of the "long song" -- lyric chants, especially the voices of women lost in time -- as it resonates from New Orleans's "poetic sites" like Congo Square, where Africans and Indians gathered in the early eighteenth century, to the modern-day Maple Leaf Bar, where poets still convene on Sunday afternoons. She recovers, for example, an all-but-forgotten young Creole woman named Lélé and leads us all the way up to celebrated contemporary writers such as former Louisiana poet laureate Brenda Marie Osbey, Sybil Kein, Nicole Cooley, and Katherine Soniat.

Hearing Sappho in New Orleans is a reminder of poetry's ability to restore and secure fragile and fragmented connections in a vulnerable and imperiled world.

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Michael Floyd:

This Hearing Sappho in New Orleans: The Call of Poetry from Congo Square to the Ninth Ward (Southern Literary Studies) book is just not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book will be information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This specific Hearing Sappho in New Orleans: The Call of Poetry from Congo Square to the Ninth Ward (Southern Literary Studies) without we know teach the one who examining it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't be worry Hearing Sappho in New Orleans: The Call of Poetry from Congo Square to the Ninth Ward (Southern Literary Studies) can bring if you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even phone. This Hearing Sappho in New Orleans: The Call of Poetry from Congo Square to the Ninth Ward (Southern Literary Studies) having fine arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not truly feel uninterested in reading.

Desmond Gorman:

Exactly why? Because this Hearing Sappho in New Orleans: The Call of Poetry from Congo Square to the Ninth Ward (Southern Literary Studies) is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will shock you with the secret it inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who write the book in such amazing way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book have such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

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