



How to Write

By Derek Beaulieu

Talon Books, Canada. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, How to Write, Derek Beaulieu, How to Write is a perverse Coles Notes: a paradigm of prosody where writing as sampling, borrowing, cutting-and-pasting and mash-up meets literature. This collection of conceptual short fiction takes inspiration from Lautreamont's decree that "plagiarism is necessary. It is implied in the idea of progress. It clasps the author's sentence tight, uses his expressions, eliminates a false idea, replaces it with the right idea." Already early in the twentieth century, the modernist Ezra Pound asserted that poets should "make it new," and of course by "it" he meant "the tradition": the materiality of pre-existent writing. The assertion is by no means original, much less post-modern: John Donne, for example, argued centuries ago that "all mankind is of one author, and is one volume." How to Write is an instruction manual for the demise of ownership. A multitudinous dialogue of writers and subjects, words and contexts, it unleashes a cacophony of voices where authors don't own their words, they merely rent them from other authors. Containing ten pieces of conceptual prose ranging from the purely appropriated through the entirely recomposed, and covering a range of texts from the...



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