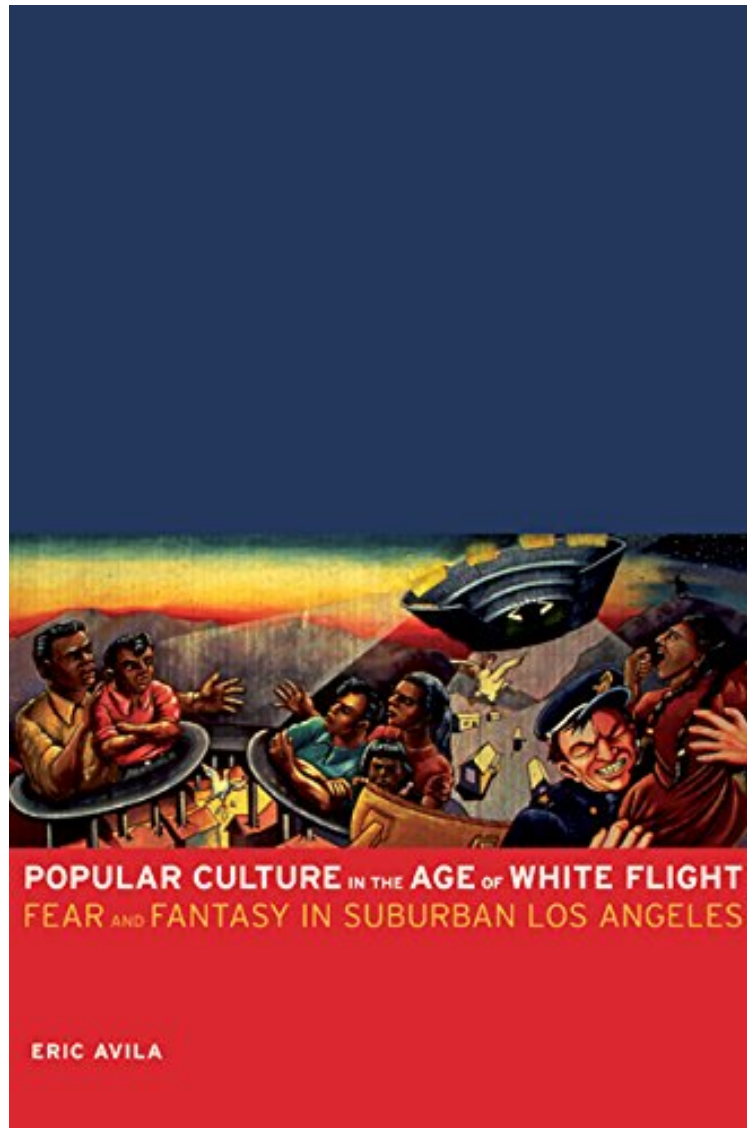


[Read ebook] Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight: Fear and Fantasy in Suburban Los Angeles (American Crossroads)

Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight: Fear and Fantasy in Suburban Los Angeles (American Crossroads)

Eric Avila

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#616705 in Books 2006-04-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .81 x 6.00l, .99 #File Name: 0520248112308 pages | File size: 50.Mb

Eric Avila : Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight: Fear and Fantasy in Suburban Los Angeles (American Crossroads) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight: Fear and Fantasy in Suburban Los Angeles (American Crossroads):

0 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy WHAT?Excellent read27 of 38 people found the

following review helpful. FantasticBy pjl had to read Eric Avila's "Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight" for a course and was dreading it. I figured that it would be a rather tiresome book pointing out racism in pop culture. Instead I found a terrific work on how race and urban vision informed the spatial construction of modern Los Angeles. As a lifelong New Yorker, I'm more than willing to have my low opinions of LA confirmed, and Eric Avila, a professor at UCLA, provides some good grist for that mill. Avila argues that the spatial construction of LA, beginning in the 30s and 40s, was informed by a vision of the city which contrasted itself consciously with what he terms "the Noir City." Avila's "Noir City" is exemplified by East Coast cities like New York. The Noir City is dirty, crowded, racially and culturally polyglot, and dangerous. Avila traces how Los Angeles boosters, often with roots in suburban and small town Midwestern states, rejected this vision of the city. They saw Los Angeles as a cleaner, safer, more orderly city, which was also, not coincidentally, racial white. Avila looks at elements of popular public culture in LA, such as Disneyland and Dodger Stadium, to show how this vision of clean respectable orderliness was realized in post war LA. These arenas of cultural display offered an orderly homogenize entertainment for the masses. At the same time the city was undergoing a spatial segregation based along racial and class lines. As Dodger Stadium moved into Chavez Ravine it displaced a longstanding Hispanic community. But far more important were changes in transportation and municipality. Avila traces how, in the early 20th century, Los Angeles public transportation system, which had been adequate and which could have taken off dramatically, was left behind in favor of a car centered transportation network. The automobile, and the resulting highway system, had a decisive impact on the shape of Los Angeles. People who had once congregated on the subways and trolley were now isolated in their cars. The highways allowed suburban commuters to bypass other neighborhoods entirely. A white suburban commuter could live all his life in Los Angeles and never have to see a racial minority or poor person. 0 of 19 people found the following review helpful. Better than purchasing from school. By Kyanzasul am a college student attending a University. Books are always a pain in the side to purchase. This was not only a good price, but it came promptly, was well packaged and a very interesting and intriguing read. Very pleased.

Los Angeles pulsed with economic vitality and demographic growth in the decades following World War II. This vividly detailed cultural history of L.A. from 1940 to 1970 traces the rise of a new suburban consciousness adopted by a generation of migrants who abandoned older American cities for Southern California's booming urban region. Eric Avila explores expressions of this new "white identity" in popular culture with provocative discussions of Hollywood and film noir, Dodger Stadium, Disneyland, and L.A.'s renowned freeways. These institutions not only mirrored this new culture of suburban whiteness and helped shape it, but also, as Avila argues, reveal the profound relationship between the increasingly fragmented urban landscape of Los Angeles and the rise of a new political outlook that rejected the tenets of New Deal liberalism and anticipated the emergence of the New Right. Avila examines disparate manifestations of popular culture in architecture, art, music, and more to illustrate the unfolding urban dynamics of postwar Los Angeles. He also synthesizes important currents of new research in urban history, cultural studies, and critical race theory, weaving a textured narrative about the interplay of space, cultural representation, and identity amid the westward shift of capital and culture in postwar America.

"In *Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight*, Eric Avila offers a unique argument about the restructuring of urban space in the two decades following World War II and the role played by new suburban spaces in dramatically transforming the political culture of the United States. Avila's work helps us see how and why the postwar suburb produced the political culture of 'balanced budget conservatism' that is now the dominant force in politics, how the eclipse of the New Deal since the 1970s represents not only a change of views but also an alteration of spaces." - George Lipsitz, author of *The Possessive Investment in Whiteness* "From the Inside Flap" In *Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight*, Eric Avila offers a unique argument about the restructuring of urban space in the two decades following World War II and the role played by new suburban spaces in dramatically transforming the political culture of the United States. Avila's work helps us see how and why the postwar suburb produced the political culture of 'balanced budget conservatism' that is now the dominant force in politics, how the eclipse of the New Deal since the 1970s represents not only a change of views but also an alteration of spaces."—George Lipsitz, author of *The Possessive Investment in Whiteness*