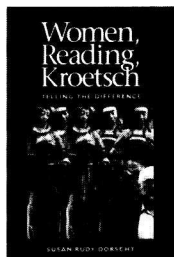


Wilfrid Laurier University Press

Women,
Reading,
Kroetsch

TELLING THE DIFFERENCE

SUSAN RUDY DORSCHT



In *Women, Reading, Kroetsch: Telling the Difference*, Susan Rudy Dorscht deliberately sets out to bring together Robert Kroetsch who currently dominates literary theory in Canada and feminist theory. Ironically, the canonization of Kroetsch has largely been brought about by such feminist critics as Linda Hutcheon and Shirley Neumann, yet until now there has been no rigorous feminist analysis of his texts. Rudy Dorscht's response is *Women, Reading, Kroetsch*, in which women readers locate a feminist agenda and issues within Kroetsch's texts. Thus, they are both subject and agent—both acting and acted upon—in Kroetsch's writing.

This book studies the history and possibility of feminist deconstruction of Kroetsch's writings by examining Freud, Lacan, Derrida and Kroetsch on subjectivity and sexuality and makes reference to *Field Notes, But We Are Exiles, The Studhorse Man* and *What the Crow Said*; it also explores feminist readings of Kroetsch's work.

Rudy Dorscht challenges the traditionally subservient relationship, in a critical study of one writer's work, of reader to text and so empowers the feminist reader as well as, if not rather than, the male writer. She reveals how, in fact, Kroetsch's work extends the very boundaries of feminist literary-critical practice.

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