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Loaded Words

Marjorie Garber



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One of our most important cultural critics, at the top of her form, comments on a wide range of topics in both general and academic culture.

In *Loaded Words* the **inimitable literary and cultural critic Marjorie Garber invites readers to join her in a rigorous and exuberant exploration of language**. What links the pieces included in this vibrant new collection is the author's contention that all words are inescapably loaded-that is, highly charged, explosive, substantial, intoxicating, fruitful, and overbrimming-and that such loading is what makes language matter.

Garber casts her keen eye on terms from **knowledge**, **belief**, **madness**, **interruption**, **genius**, **and celebrity to humanities**, **general education**, **and academia**. Included here are an array of stirring essays, from the title piece, with its demonstration of the importance of language to our thinking about the world; to the superb "Mad Lib," on the concept of madness from *Mad* magazine to debates between Foucault and Derrida; to pieces on Shakespeare, "the most culturally loaded name of our time," and the Renaissance.

With its wide range of cultural references and engaging style coupled with fresh intellectual inquiry, *Loaded Words* will draw in and enchant scholars, students, and general readers alike.

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