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The Dominion of the Dead

By Robert Pogue Harrison

The University Of Chicago Press Jun 2005, 2005. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 212x140x16 mm. Neuware - How do the living maintain relations to the dead Why do we bury people when they die And what is at stake when we do In 'The Dominion of the Dead,' Robert Pogue Harrison considers the supreme importance of these questions to Western civilization, exploring the many places where the dead cohabit the world of the living--the graves, images, literature, architecture, and monuments that house the dead in their afterlife among us. This elegantly conceived work devotes particular attention to the practice of burial. Harrison contends that we bury our dead to humanize the lands where we build our present and imagine our future. As long as the dead are interred in graves and tombs, they never truly depart from this world, but remain, if only symbolically, among the living. Spanning a broad range of examples, from the graves of our first human ancestors to the empty tomb of the Gospels to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Harrison also considers the authority of predecessors in both modern and premodern societies. Through inspired readings of major writers and thinkers such as Vico, Virgil, Dante, Pater, Nietzsche,...



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