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Saving Beauty Byung-Chul Han

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beauty today is a paradox the cult of beauty is ubiquitous but it has lost its transcendence and become little more than an aspect of consumerism the aesthetic dimension of capitalism the sublime and unsettling aspects of beauty have given way to corporeal pleasures and likes resulting in a kind of pornography of beauty in this book cultural theorist byung chul han reinvestigates aesthetic theory for our digital age he interrogates our preoccupation with all things slick and smooth from jeff koon s sculptures and the iphone to brazilian waxing reaching far deeper than our superficial reactions to viral videos and memes han reclaims beauty showing how it manifests itself as truth temptation and even disaster this wide ranging and profound exploration of beauty encompassing ethical and political considerations as well as aesthetic will appeal to all those interested in cultural and aesthetic theory philosophy and digital media

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