

The Beet Queen

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The beet queen : a novel
A study guide for Louise Erdrich's "The Beet Queen"
NOVELS FOR STUDENTS
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Chance in Louise Erdrich's "The Beet Queen" : new ways to find a family
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Entering the 90s
Louise Erdrich
Louise Erdrich Gale, Cengage Learning
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this tale of abandonment sexual obsession jealousy and unstinting love spans some forty years the characters in this family drama clash draw apart and meet again

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orphaned fourteen year old carl and his eleven year old sister mary travel to argus north dakota to live with their mother s sister in this tale of abandonment sexual obsession jealousy and unstinting love

the two fields of contemporary native american literature and culture exist in the tension between two literary traditions the native oral and literary tradition and the modern western mainstream literary influence in her north dakota quartet love medicine 1984 the beet queen 1986 tracks 1988 the bingo palace 1994 native american mixedblood author louise erdrich b 1954 exemplifies where and how these traditions meet and interact a postmodern reading of the quartet shows that native american authors and literary critics alike need not be afraid to tread into postmodernism since an interpretation from this perspective opens up the possibility of freeing native american literature from the limiting label of ethnic or minority literature and of establishing it as a vital part of american literature this postmodern interpretation of louise erdrich s quartet offers a discussion of the theoretical issues involved in the context of ethnic writing and its relation to postmodernism as well as an analysis of her intricate narrative strategies in particular her use of multiple perspectives and of intertextual techniques the main part of the interpretation consists of a reading of postmodern concepts such as magical realism carnivalesque humor the relationship between reader and text gender roles and sexual identities history and textuality the trickster figure and games and chance as can be found in louise erdrich s north dakota quartet

louise erdrich following in the native american narrative tradition has crafted enduring tales of homecomings her widely acclaimed debut novel love medicine garnered prestigious awards and quickly made its way onto bestseller lists and into readers hearts in this full length critical volume stookey uncovers the layers of wisdom and humor embedded in erdrich s engaging writing stookey analyzing each novel in turn examines the characters and themes that recur in erdrich s canon of interconnected stories this insightful analysis helps students and lovers of fine literature approach erdrich s work with greater appreciation for her bold narrative style this study begins with a fascinating biographical account tracing early influences in louise erdrich s life the subsequent chapter discusses erdrich s place in literary tradition as a novelist a poet and a storyteller it also offers lucid analysis of how erdrich skillfully manages to reconcile traditional and experimental approaches to the construction of her novels a full chapter then examines each novel in terms of literary style plot character development and theme alternate critical approaches to erdrich s writing are also given for each of her six major works to date a bibliography and lists of general criticism biographical sources and

reviews complete this volume making it an indispensable resource for any reader seeking to develop a greater understanding of erdrich s writings

being of mixed blood and having lived in both white and indian worlds they give an original perspective on american society sometimes with humor and always with refreshing candor their discussions undermine the damaging stereotypes of american indians some of the interviews focus on their nonfiction book the broken cord which recounts the struggle to solve their adopted son s health problems from fetal alcohol syndrome included also are two recent interviews published here for the first time

what does it mean to live in the west today do people tend to identify with states with regions or with the larger west this book examines the development of regional identity in the american west demonstrating that it is a regionally diverse entity made up of many different wests great plains southwest rocky mountains and more in which american regionalism finds its fullest expression these fourteen original essays tell how a sense of place emerged among residents of various regions and how a sense of those places was developed by people outside of them wrobel and steiner first offer a compelling overview of the west s regional nature then thirteen other rising or renowned scholars from history american studies geography and literature tell how regional consciousness formed among inhabitants of particular regions all of the essays address the larger issue of the centrality of place in determining social and cultural forms and individual and collective identities some focus on race and culture as the primary influences on regional consciousness while others emphasize environmental and economic factors or the influence of literature some even examine western regionalism in areas that lie beyond the west as it has traditionally been conceived each of the contributors believes that where a people live helps determine what they are and they write not only about the many wests within the larger west but also about the constant state of flux in which regionalism exists many books speak of the west as a place but few others deal with the west s different places many wests presents a vision of the west that reflects both the common heritage and unique character of each major subregion building on the revisionist impulse of the last decade to help redirect new western history toward an appreciation of regional diversity and integrate scholarship in the regional subfields it is a book for everyone who lives in studies or loves the west for it confirms that it is home to very different peoples economies histories and regions

contains 536 essays that examine the most important books of fiction and nonfiction authored by women

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