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Who Is Mary Sue? (Paperback)

By Sophie Collins

FABER FABER, United Kingdom, 2018. Paperback. Condition: New. Main. Language: English . Brand New Book. In the language of fan fiction, a Mary Sue is an idealised and implausibly flawless character: a female archetype that can infuriate audiences for its perceived narcissism. Such is the setting for this brilliant and important debut by Sophie Collins. In a series of verse and prose collages, *Who Is Mary Sue?* exposes the presumptive politics behind writing and readership: the idea that men invent while women reflect; that a man writes of the world outside while a woman will turn to the interior. Part poetry and part reportage, at once playful and sincere, these fictive-factive miniatures deploy original writing and extant quotation in a mode of pure invention. In so doing, they lift up and lay down a revealing sequence of masks and mirrors that disturb the reflection of authority. A work of captivation and correction, this is a book that will resonate with anyone concerned with identity, shame, gender, trauma, composition and culture: everyone, in other words, who wishes to live openly and think fearlessly in the modern world. *Who Is Mary Sue?* is a work for our times and a question for...



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