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American Pietas: Visions of Race, Death, and the Maternal (Critical American Studies)

Ruby C. Tapia

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Ruby C. Tapia : American Pietas: Visions of Race, Death, and the Maternal (Critical American Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised American Pietas: Visions of Race, Death, and the Maternal (Critical American Studies):

In *American Pietage*, Ruby C. Tapia reveals how visual representations of racialized motherhood shape and reflect national citizenship. By means of a sustained engagement with Roland Barthes's suturing of race, death, and the maternal in *Camera Lucida*, Tapia contends that the contradictory essence of the photograph is both as a signifier of death and a guarantor of resurrection.

"*American Pietage* offers a compelling analysis of racialized concepts of motherhood in American narratives of identity, history, and memory. Looking at both the construction of whiteness and racial otherness, Ruby C. Tapia attends to the intersections of race and gender in visual representations of national subjectivity. This is an extremely important intervention that interrogates, rather than simply references, the centrality of racialized motherhood to national identities." —Wendy Kozol, Oberlin College