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By William D. Atwill

University of Georgia Press, United States, 2010. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 213 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.In *Fire and Power* William D. Atwill maps the cultural contours of space-age America through readings of some of the era's most popular and influential narratives: Saul Bellow's *Mr. Sammler's Planet*, John Updike's *Rabbit Redux*, Norman Mailer's *Of a Fire on the Moon*, Tom Wolfe's *The Right Stuff*, Thomas Pynchon's *Gravity's Rainbow*, and Don DeLillo's *Ratner's Star*. Together, Atwill demonstrates, these key texts comprise a literary history of the space age, an exploration of the novel's possibilities in uncertain times, and a disturbing critique of postwar society. The massive technological enterprise known as the Manned Space Program was, in Atwill's words, the historical marker of our age, and in our race to the moon, he says, Bellow, Updike, Mailer, Wolfe, Pynchon, and DeLillo found a trope for the postmodern condition. To these writers, the space program was the most visible and outward sign of a radical shift in the culture that fostered it—a shift from modernism's search for interior, individual unity amidst chaos...

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