



Conversations with Dorothy Allison (Literary Conversations Series)

Mae Miller Claxton

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Since the publication of her groundbreaking novel, *Bastard Out of Carolina* (1992), Dorothy Allison (b. 1949) has been known--as with Larry Brown and Lee Smith--as a purveyor of the "gritty" contemporary South that, in many ways, is worlds away from prevailing "Southern Gothic" representations of the region. Allison has frequently used her position, through passionate lectures and enthusiastic interviews, to give voice to issues dear to her: poverty, working-class life, domestic violence, feminism and women's relationships, the contemporary South, and gay/lesbian life. Often called a "writer-rock star" and a "cult icon," Allison is a true performer of the written word.

At the same time, Allison also takes the craft of writing very seriously. In this collection, spanning almost two decades, Allison the performer and Allison the careful craftsman both emerge, creating a portrait of a complex woman. The interviews detail Allison's working-class background in Greenville, South Carolina, as the daughter of a waitress. Allison discusses--with candor and quick wit--her upbringing, her work in a variety of modes (novels, short stories, essays, poetry), and her active participation in the women's movement of the 1970s.

In the absence of a biography of Allison's life, *Conversations with Dorothy Allison* presents Allison's perspectives on her life, literature, and her confusions over her role as a public figure. Linking her work with African American writers such as Zora Neale Hurston and Toni Morrison, Allison pioneered the genre of working-class literature, writing a world that is often overlooked and under-studied.

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Conversations with Dorothy Allison (Literary Conversations Series) can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. Many of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to set every word into pleasure arrangement in writing Conversations with Dorothy Allison (Literary Conversations Series) however doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource info that maybe you can be one of it. This great information could drawn you into brand new stage of crucial thinking.

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