



Stigma and the Cave: Two Novels

By D.H. Melhem

Syracuse University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Stigma and the Cave: Two Novels, D.H. Melhem, These two novels complete D. H. Melhem's trilogy, Patrimones, that began with "Blight". "Stigma", a dark political satire, and "The Cave", a post-nuclear fantasy, confront the crucial issue facing this generation: what kind of world will be our legacy? Unsettling and sometimes terrifying, both novels center on ideological paradoxes created by a military-industrial government pitted against American individualist politics. "Stigma" offers a vision of civil unrest, unemployment, and a chronic state of war. Books are recycled as toilet paper. Families are conscripted by lottery for the honor of war-work. Selected adults serve in a bizarre bomb factory. Youths are inducted into military service, children relegated to orphanages. Scathing yet awash in dark humor, "Stigma" relates one family's struggle to survive in and escape a system of perversity and horror. "The Cave" describes a motley group of people who flee to an abandoned cave, seeking shelter from a nuclear attack. Inside, viciousness, cowardice, and heroic gestures ironically transform their lives into a war. Tensions between family relations and newly formed alliances, communal needs and individual desires, religious beliefs and stark reality move toward a...



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