Poised between the commercialism of mass consumption and a questioning of prevailing social norms, youth cultures offer a fascinating insight into the social and cultural state of western societies. This book provides a lively exploration of such cultures, with all their implicit ironies and contradictions, at the end of the twentieth century. The contributors highlight current forms of expression - music, style, fashion, entertainment - and the richness of youth cultures’ historical and contemporary variety. At the same time the book outlines the range of approaches to understanding youth culture and subculture and their relations to, or differences from, popular and high culture. This innovative collection will be essential reading for students of cultural studies and communications, and for all those across the humanities and social sciences interested in the nature, formation and dynamics of youth cultures.

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