



Date: 09/10/2024

Pages : 339

Format cm: 15 x 20

Prix: 23.0

EAN: 9782080454348

The City of Tomorrow

Detroit: A Narrative Investigation

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Category: Humanities and Non-Fiction Genres: Geography/Demography - History Keywords: Detroit - Urbanism - Collapse

Rebirth from among the ruins.

Stricken by an economic depression so severe that it bankrupted the city in 2013, Detroit provides an exceptional field of investigation for testing the social imaginaries of collapse. Whether a post-apocalyptic ghost town or a garden city liberated from the yoke of capitalism, the fallen capital of the fossil fuel industries becomes a blank page on which different versions of our future are written: all is lost, or all is possible again. Raphaëlle Guidée's literary investigation incorporates the stories told by residents, activists and researchers, and asks: how can we tell the story of the complex, fragile and heterogeneous worlds that are being reconstituted in the hearts of ruins?