



Art on Fire

By Hilary Sloin

BYWATER BOOKS, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 213 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Art on Fire is the apparent biography of subversive painter Francesca deSilva, the founding foremother of pseudorealism, who lived hard and died young. But in the tradition of Vladimir Nabokov s acclaimed novel Pale Fire, it s a fiction from start to finish. It opens with Francesca s early life. We learn about her childhood love, the chess genius Lisa Sinsong, as well as her rivalry with her brilliant sister Isabella, who publishes an acclaimed volume of poetry at the age of twelve. She compensates for the failings of her less than attentive parents by turning to her grandmother who is loyal and adoring until she learns Francesca is a lesbian, when she rejects her. Francesca flees to a ramshackle cabin in Wellfleet, Massachusetts, working weekends at the flea market. She breaks into the gloomy basement of a house, where she begins her life as a painter. Much to her confusion and even dismay, fame comes quickly. Interspersed with Francesca s narrative are thirteen critical essays on the paintings of Francesca deSilva by critics, academics, and psychologists--essays that are razor-sharp satires on...



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