Fighting for Recognition: Identity, Masculinity, and the Act of Violence in Professional Wrestling

by R. Tyson Smith


Review of RT Smith's Fighting for Recognition: Identity, Masculinity, and the Act of Violence in Professional Wrestling. R. Tyson Smith brings us into the world of professional wrestling. Smith explores the intertwined issues of gender, class, violence, and the body in his book, Fighting for Recognition: Identity, Masculinity, and the Act of Violence in Professional Wrestling. Like the big-name, televised pro wrestlers who originally inspired them, indie wrestlers also experience professional wrestling's presentation of masculinity. Smith's book offers a sophisticated and readable analysis of work, masculinity, and identity, and he uses his detailed end notes, in particular, to further explore the complexities of the act of violence in professional wrestling. Smith's approach is both nuanced and critical, and he uses his detailed end notes to support his arguments. He also includes bibliographical references for readers who wish to delve deeper into the topic. Overall, Fighting for Recognition: Identity, Masculinity, and the Act of Violence in Professional Wrestling is a must-read for anyone interested in the intersection of gender, class, and violence in professional wrestling.