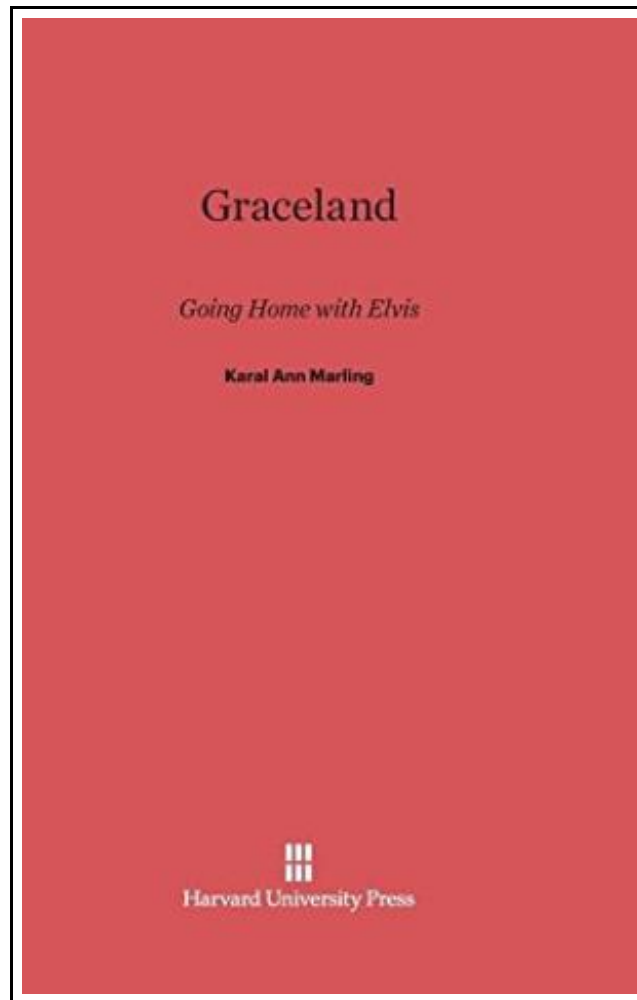


Graceland Going Home with Elvis



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Reviews

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GRACELAND GOING HOME WITH ELVIS



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Harvard University Press. Hardcover. Condition: New. 266 pages. Dimensions: 9.3in. x 6.3in. x 0.9in. He didn't write music or lyrics and wasn't too articulate on the subject of himself, but when he created his dream house Elvis Presley spoke volumes about who he was. From the musical notes that dance across the gates to the columns of the neo-Southern manse, from the glittering stairwells to the jungle rec room to the plush-lined bathroom suite where he died, the colours and textures and shapes of Graceland speak for the boy from Tupelo who became the King of Rock n Roll. What the mansion says of Elvis, and what it says to - and of - the millions of fans who make the journey there each year, is what Graceland: Going Home with Elvis is about. What made Elvis a visual icon was his concern for style. Karal Ann Marling interprets the places and the look of Elvis's life - from shotgun shack to mansion, through byways lined with luxury hotels, Hollywood studios, old churches, housing projects, motels and malls - as a dialogue he conducted with himself, his family and his fans. This conversation is what tourism is about, and so Graceland speaks of tourism as well - of the author's forays into an alien South, its rhythms, its history, and of Elvis as the ultimate tourist, the musician on the road, ever in transit between home and the one-night stand. Reconstructing the changing interior of Graceland during its owner's lifetime, the book describes the cultural geography of Elvisness - his self-created material world - and of American mobility in the postwar era. In Marling's book we have a portrait of the materialist ideal of home, created in the commercial decadence of post-World War II America and fed by rock n roll....



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