



Contextualizing Cassian: Aristocrats, Asceticism, and Reformation in Fifth-Century Gaul (Oxford Early Christian Studies)

Richard J. Goodrich

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Richard J. Goodrich examines the attempt by the fifth-century ascetic writer John Cassian to influence and shape the development of Western monasticism. Goodrich's close analysis of Cassian's earliest work (*The Institutes*) focuses on his interaction with the values and preconceptions of a traditional Roman elite, as well as his engagement with contemporary writers. By placing *The Institutes* in context, Goodrich demonstrates just how revolutionary this foundational work was for its time and milieu.

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