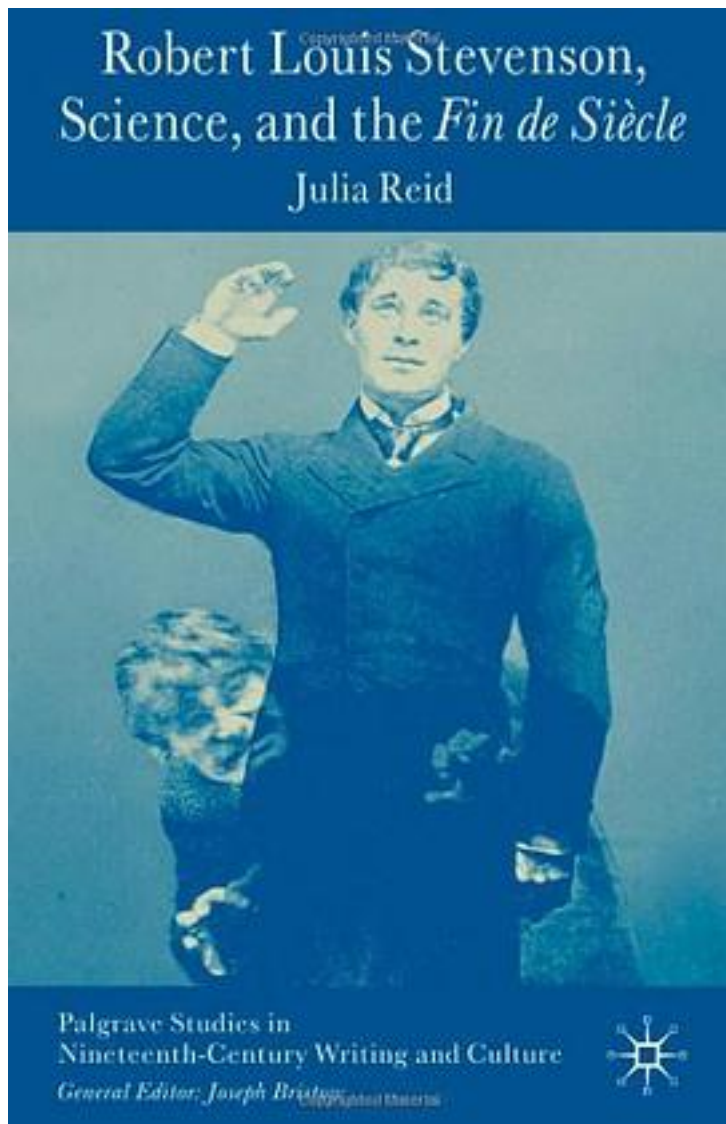


# Robert Louis Stevenson, Science, and the Fin De Siecle



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In the first book about Robert Louis Stevenson and evolutionary science, Julia Reid argues that a fascination with 'primitive' life lies at the heart of his work. Reid demonstrates that Stevenson engaged critically with evolutionary science and unsettled evolutionist assumptions about progress from 'savagery' to 'civilization'. The book offers original readings of a wide range of his writings, from Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde and Treasure Island to previously unpublished archival material. It provides a new understanding of the relationship between Stevenson's Scottish and Polynesian work, exploring the ambivalence about evolutionary psychology and anthropology which unites his diverse oeuvre. Reid's interdisciplinary study illuminates the complex traffic of ideas between late-Victorian literature and science, and suggests that Stevenson radically questioned contemporary notions of 'savage' life.

作者介绍:

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