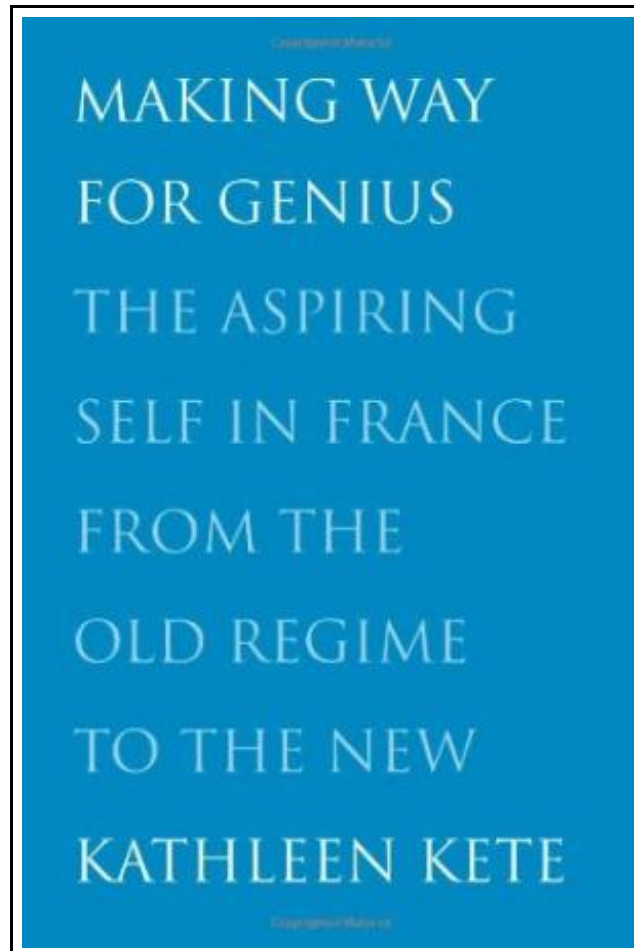


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This book will never be easy to start on looking at but quite entertaining to read. It is actually packed with wisdom and knowledge It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book.

(Ms. Missouri Satterfield DVM)

MAKING WAY FOR GENIUS: THE ASPIRING SELF IN FRANCE FROM THE OLD REGIME TO THE NEW (HARDBACK)

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Yale University Press, United States, 2012. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 240 x 156 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Examining the lives and works of three iconic personalities -Germaine de Stael, Stendhal, and Georges Cuvier-Kathleen Kete creates a groundbreaking cultural history of ambition in post-Revolutionary France. While in the old regime the traditionalist view of ambition prevailed-that is, ambition as morally wrong unless subsumed into a corporate whole-the new regime was marked by a rising tide of competitive individualism. Greater opportunities for personal advancement, however, were shadowed by lingering doubts about the moral value of ambition. Kete identifies three strategies used to overcome the ethical burden of ambition: romantic genius (Stael), secular vocation (Stendhal), and post-mythic destiny (Cuvier). In each case, success would seem to be driven by forces outside one's control. She concludes by examining the still relevant (and still unresolved) conundrum of the relationship of individual desires to community needs, which she identifies as a defining characteristic of the modern world.



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