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Pride of Kin

By C. Wilson

Texas A & M University Press. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, *Pride of Kin*, C. Wilson, "They have a staying quality, these Hookses, that I can only describe as haunting. They have inhabited my imagination all my life, inexplicable ghosts, to be exorcised only by that bit of magic that created them in the first place, the turn of a phrase." Thus Callie Coe Wilson introduces us to her family of inveterate tale tellers, the expansive and eccentric Hooks clan of Hardin County, Texas. Wilson and her cousin Ellen Walker Rienstra capture in this unusual family saga the essence of why families take such delight in the stories of their ancestors. We see William "Pap" Hooks, legendary progenitor of the numerous clans, plowing his fields in his shirttail because "he disliked the constrictions of conventional dress and .refused to be encumbered by custom." We hunt black bear in the Big Thicket with Ben and Bud, confronting the enraged bear that once grabbed the end of Bud's gun in its teeth. We marvel at Ben's fiddle rendition of "Cattle in the Canebrake," recorded with a cactus needle. Ben, the shrewdest of Pap's many sons, is said to have made three...

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