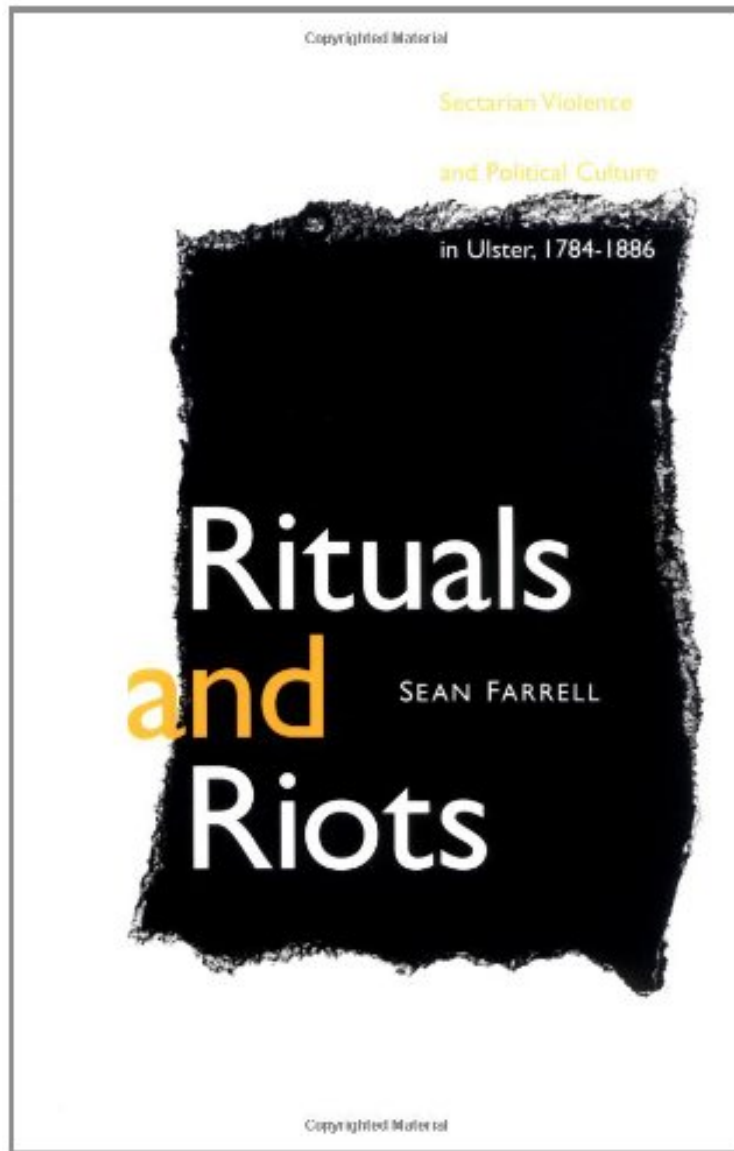


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Rituals and Riots: Sectarian Violence and Political Culture in Ulster, 1784-1886

Sean Farrell

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Riots between Catholic and Protestant crowds occurred with depressing frequency throughout the nineteenth century, making sectarian violence one of the defining characteristics of the modern Ulster experience. Throughout this period, ritual confrontations led to regular outbreaks of sectarian conflict, which in turn helped keep Catholic/Protestant antagonism at the heart of political and cultural discussion in the north of Ireland. By focusing on the links between public ritual, sectarian riots, and politics between the Armagh Troubles of the late eighteenth century and the Belfast Riots of 1886, Sean Farrell offers a new interpretation of nineteenth-century sectarianism, one that emphasizes the critical roles of lower-class attitudes and behavior in forging Ulster's divided political culture.

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