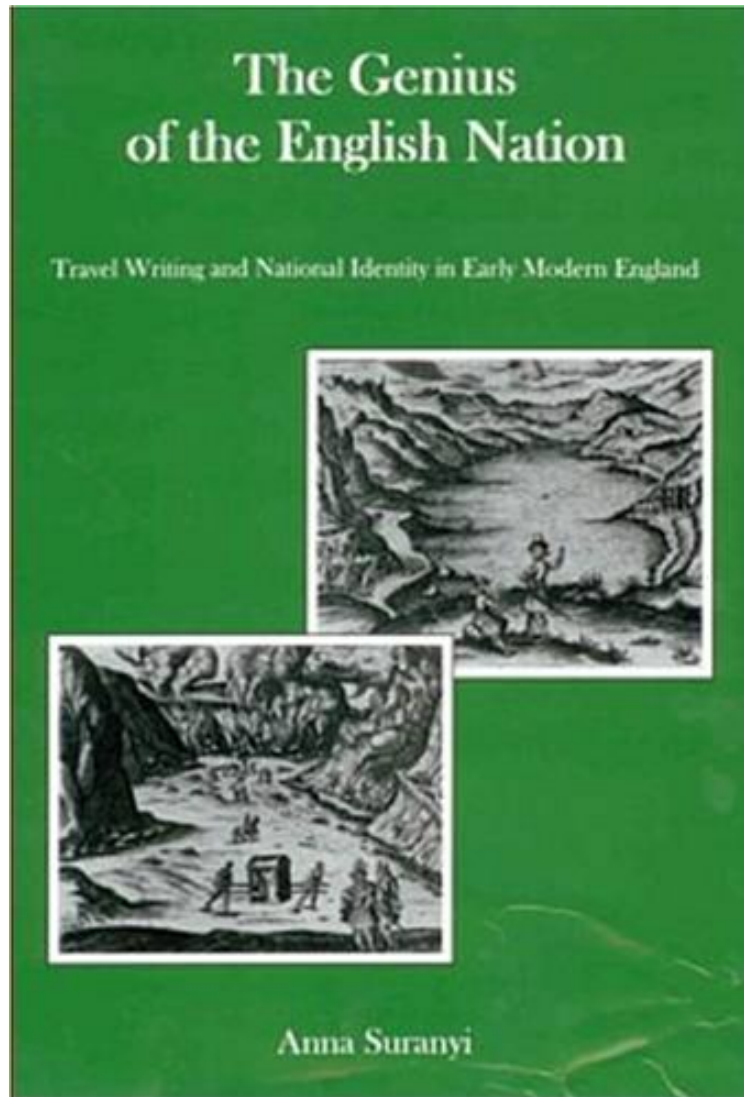


# The Genius of the English Nation: Travel Writing and National Identity in Early Modern England

Anna Suranyi

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**Anna Suranyi : The Genius of the English Nation: Travel Writing and National Identity in Early Modern England** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Genius of the English Nation: Travel Writing and National Identity in Early Modern England:

Travel literature was one of the most popular literary genres of the early modern era. This book examines how emerging concepts of national identity, imperialism, colonialism, and orientalism were worked out and represented for English readers in early travel and ethnographic writings. Using insights from a variety of scholarly fields such as history, anthropology, and literary studies, Dr. Suranyi analyzes recurrent cultural stereotypes used by English travelers to describe continental Europe, Ireland, and the Ottoman Empire. For such writers, the most important criteria for evaluating countries were civility and barbarism. These were represented through depictions of cultural traits such as foodways, cleanliness, the roles of women, or even the ascription of gender to countries.

Perceptive study of English representations of Ireland and the Ottoman Empire. It is to Suranyi's great credit that she managed to produce a fine book that has much to say to each constituency - as well as to scholars and students interested in ethnography, travel writing, and national identity. (American Historical )About the AuthorAnna Suranyi is assistant professor of history at Northeastern University in Boston.