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Dowling goes on to examine the fear of effeminacy facing Victorian literary men and the strategies used to combat these fears by the nineteenth-century male novelist. In later chapters, concentrating on Dickens and Thackeray, he examines how the male novelist is defined against multiple images of unmanliness. Manliness and the Male Novelist in Victorian Literature has 2 ratings and 1 review. Alexis said: Dowling looks at how male Victorian writers and essayist... Manliness and the Male Novelist in Victorian Literature (The Nineteenth Century Series) [Andrew Dowling] on Amazon.com. *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. The purpose of this book is to address two principal questions: 'Was the concept of masculinity a topic of debate for the Victorians?' and 'Why is Victorian literature full of images of male deviance when Victorian masculinity is defined ... Get this from a library! Manliness and the male novelist in Victorian literature. [Andrew Dowling] -- "The purpose of this book is to address two principal questions: 'Was the concept of masculinity a topic of debate for the Victorians?' and 'Why is Victorian literature full of images of male ...