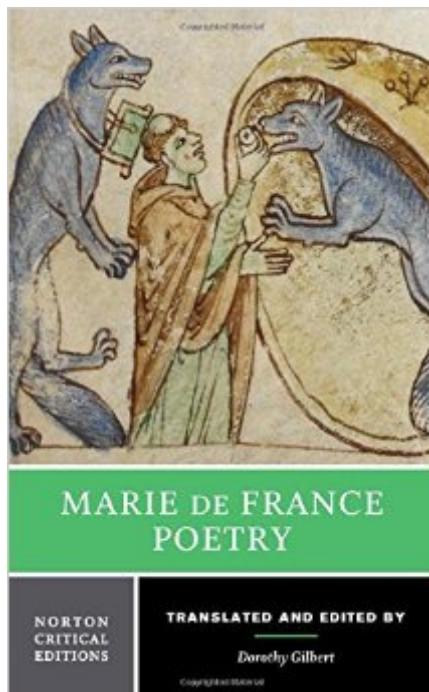


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Marie De France: Poetry (Norton Critical Editions)



Synopsis

Marie de Franceâ™s beautiful poems of courtly love, enchantment, and mystery are now available in a Norton Critical Edition. Marie de France was a medieval poet who was probably born in France and who lived in England during the twelfth century. Prominent among the earliest poets writing in the French vernacular, Marie de France helped shape the style and genres of later medieval poetry. This Norton Critical Edition includes all of Marieâ™sâ lais (short narrative verse poems); selected fables; and a generous excerpt from Saint Patrickâ™s Purgatory, a long poem based on a well-known medieval legend. Each text is accompanied by detailed explanatory annotations. For comparative reading, two lais, âœBisclavretâ• and âœYâ¶necâ• are accompanied by Marieâ™s facing-page originals. "Backgrounds and Contexts" is thematically organized to provide readers with a clear sense of Marieâ™s inspirations. Topics include âœThe Supernatural,â• âœLove and Romance,â• âœMedical Traditions,â• âœFable Sources and Analogues: Similar Themes,â• and âœPurgatory and the Afterlife.â• Ovid, Chaucer, Andreas Capellanus, Boccaccio, Aristotle, and Bede are among the authors included. From the wealth of scholarly work published on Marie de France, Dorothy Gilbert has chosen excerpts from nine pieces that address issues of history and authorship as well as major themes in the lais, fables, and Saint Patrickâ™s Purgatory. The contributors are Thomas Warton, Abbâ© Gervais de la Rue, Joseph Bedier, Leo Spitzer, R. Howard Bloch, E. A. Francis, Jill Mann, and Jacques Le Goff. A selected bibliography is also included.

Book Information

Series: Norton Critical Editions

Paperback: 432 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company (October 23, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0393932680

ISBN-13: 978-0393932683

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 1 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsâ• See all reviewsâ• (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #547,933 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #82 inâ• Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > European > French #116 inâ• Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Ancient, Classical & Medieval > Medieval #558 inâ• Books > Literature & Fiction > World Literature > European > French

Customer Reviews

Dorothy Gilbert's translations of Marie de France's verse narratives are lucid and lovely. Knowing that I am an admirer of Marie de France, my husband, Irvin Yalom, ordered this for me recently through and gave it to me as a much appreciated gift. I am so impressed with Gilbert's ability to translate in such a readable fashion, and to find appropriate rhymes for the original. This makes a perfect introduction into medieval romance.

Great collection of a very key player in Midieval Literature.

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