



Chinese Rhyme-Prose

By Burton Watson, Lucas Klein

The Chinese University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Chinese Rhyme-Prose, Burton Watson, Lucas Klein, Selected as one of the sixty-five masterpieces for the UNESCO Collection of Representative Works The "fu," or rhyme-prose, is a major poetic form in Chinese literature, most popular between the 2nd century b.c. and 6th century a.d. Unlike what is usually considered Chinese poetry, it is a hybrid of prose and rhymed verse, more expansive than the condensed lyrics, verging on what might be called Whitmanesque. The thirteen long poems included here are descriptions of and meditations on such subjects as mountains and abandoned cities, the sea and the wind, owls and goddesses, partings and the idle life. Burton Watson is universally considered the foremost English-language translator of classical Chinese and Japanese literature for the past five decades. Gary Snyder calls him a "great and graceful scholar," and Robert Aitken has written that "Burton Watson is a superb translator because he knows what literature is." Here his seemingly effortless translations are accompanied by a comprehensive introduction to the development and characteristics of the "fu" form, as well as excerpts from contemporary commentary on the genre. A path-breaking study of pre-modern Chinese literature and an...



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