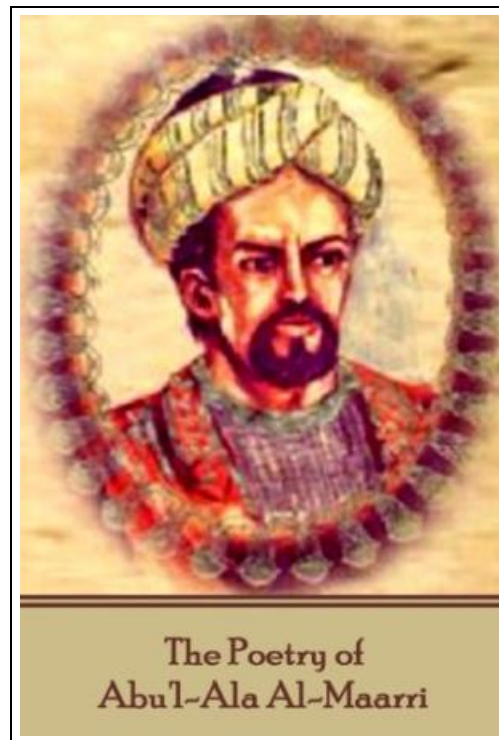


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THE POETRY OF ABU L-ALA AL-MAARRI (PAPERBACK)



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Portable Poetry, United States, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Abul Ala Al-Maarri was born in December 973 in modern day Maarrat al-Nu man, near Aleppo, in Syria. He was a member of the Banu Sulayman, a noted family of Ma arra, belonging to the larger Tanukh tribe that had formed part of the aristocracy in Syria dating back many hundreds of years. Aged only four he was rendered virtually blind due to smallpox and whilst this was thought to explain his pessimistic outlook on life and his fellow man it seems too young an age to support that. He was educated at Aleppo, Tripoli and Antioch and the area itself was part of the Abbasid Caliphate, the third Islamic caliphate, during what is now considered the Golden Age of Islam. During his schooling he began to write poetry, perhaps from as young as 11 or 12. In 1004-5 Al-Maarri learned that his father had died and, in commemoration, wrote an elegy in praise. A few years later, as an established poet and with a desire to see more of life and culture in Baghdad, he journeyed there, staying for perhaps as long as eighteen months. However, although he was respected and well received in literary circles he found the experience at odds with his growing ascetic beliefs and resisted all efforts to purchase his works. He was also by now a somewhat controversial figure and although on the whole respected his views on religion were now also causing him trouble. By 1010 with news of his mother ailing back at home he started the journey back to Ma arra but arrived shortly after her death. He would now remain in Ma arra for the rest of his life,...



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