

# The Encyclopaedia of Erin: A Treasury of Irish Poetry and Song, with a Bibliographical Portrait Gallery of Illustrious Irish Writers

The Encyclopaedia of Erin is a comprehensive collection of Irish poetry and song, as well as a biographical portrait gallery of illustrious Irish writers. This richly illustrated volume provides a comprehensive overview of Irish literature and culture, from its earliest origins to the present day.



## Encyclopaedia of Erin's Poetry and Song; and a Bibliographical Portrait Gallery of Her Poets by Anne Herries

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English

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The Encyclopaedia of Erin was first published in 1880 by John D'Alton, a prominent Irish historian and antiquarian. D'Alton's goal was to create a comprehensive work that would showcase the richness and diversity of Irish literature. The Encyclopaedia includes over 1,000 poems and songs, as well as biographical sketches of over 500 Irish writers.

The Encyclopaedia of Erin is a valuable resource for anyone interested in Irish literature and culture. The volume provides a comprehensive overview of the Irish literary tradition, from its earliest origins to the present day. The biographical sketches of Irish writers provide valuable insights into the lives and work of these important figures.

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## **The Early Irish Period**

The early Irish period of literature spans from the 6th to the 9th centuries AD. This period saw the development of a rich and complex oral tradition, which was later recorded in writing. The early Irish poems and songs are characterized by their use of intricate rhyme and meter, as well as their focus on themes such as love, loss, and nature.

Some of the most famous early Irish poems include "The Cattle Raid of Cooley" and "The Táin Bó Cúailnge." These epic poems tell the stories of legendary Irish heroes and their battles. The early Irish period also saw the development of a number of important religious texts, such as the "Lebor Gabála Éirenn" and the "Annals of the Four Masters."

## **The Middle Irish Period**

The middle Irish period of literature spans from the 10th to the 12th centuries AD. This period saw the emergence of a new literary style, which was more influenced by continental European literature. The middle Irish poems and songs are characterized by their use of more complex language and imagery, as well as their focus on themes such as religion, morality, and history.

Some of the most famous middle Irish poems include "The Book of Leinster" and "The Book of Ballymote." These manuscripts contain a wealth

of information about Irish history, culture, and literature. The middle Irish period also saw the development of a number of important religious texts, such as the "Lebor na hUidre" and the "Leabhar Breac."

## The Modern Irish Period

The modern Irish period of literature spans from the 13th to the 19th centuries AD. This period saw the development of a new literary style, which was influenced by the English language and culture. The modern Irish poems and songs are characterized by their use of more direct language and imagery, as well as their focus on themes such as love, loss, and patriotism.

Some of the most famous modern Irish poems include "The Lament for Art O'Leary" and "The Song of Fionnuala." These poems express the grief and loss of the Irish people during the period of the Penal Laws. The modern Irish period also saw the development of a number of important religious texts, such as the "Irish Bible" and the "Catechism of the Council of Trent."

## The Irish Literary Revival

The Irish Literary Revival was a movement that took place in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The goal of the movement was to revive the Irish language and culture, and to create a new Irish literature that



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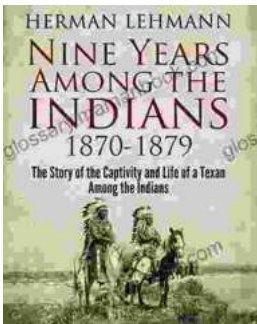
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