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The Gypsies and Other Narrative Poems

By Alexander Pushkin

David R Godine. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 160 pages. Dimensions: 7.9in. x 5.5in. x 0.5in. Alexander Pushkin (1799 1837), Russias greatest writer, wrote much more than his novel in verse Eugene Onegin. In this selection of five of his finest narrative poems, all his essential qualities are on display his ironic poise, his stylistic variety, his confounding of expectations, his creation of poetry out of everyday language. The Gypsies is modern Russian literatures first masterpiece. Telling the anti-Romantic tale of an effete city-dweller whose search for unspoiled values among a band of gypsies ends in tragedy, it is the major but unacknowledged source for Bizets Carmen. In The Bridegroom Pushkin turns the Romantic ballad into a whodunnit filled with sexual dread and subconscious terror. In Count Nulin, a deliciously comic tale of country life, he stands Shakespeares Rape of Lucrece on its head what would have happened if Lucrece had slapped Tarquins face The Tale of the Dead Princess (Pushkins version of the Snow White story) transforms Russian folk tale into purest art, and its companion-piece, the eerie Tale of the Golden Cockerel (inspired by his bitter experience in with Tsar Nicholas I), savagely politicizes the folk-tale form. Antony Wood...



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Reviews

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