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The Orthodox Heretic The Orthodox Heretic and Other Impossible Tales Heretics Heretics And Heresies A Heretic's Guide to Eternity I Call It Heresy Heretics The Doctor and the Heretic and Other Stories The Christmas Heretic and Other Stories Heretic Encyclopedia of Heresies and Heretics Heretic Sophronius of Jerusalem and Seventh-Century Heresy A Heretic and Other Poems The Epistle of Forgiveness The Other God The Fool and the Heretic Heretics Anonymous Richard McNemar Inquisitorial Inquiries A Brief History of Heresy On the Incarnation of Christ Know the Heretics Satan the Heretic The Complete Writings of an Italian Heretic Heretic Spinoza and Other Heretics Rising Above Dogma—Poetic Reflection The Trinity Bad Religion Orthodoxy Heretic For Romance—Poetic Tales & Story Poems The Oecumenical Council and the Infallibility of the Roman Pontiff Will the Real Heretics Please Stand Up Heresy and Other Prayers Heresy Heretic Days Heretics for Armchair Theologians The Prophet's Vision and the President's Dream

HERETIC DAYS is grand theatre--a drama enacted in Eric Mader's subtle and playful mind. Mader queries, dramatizes, teases, mocks, pronounces, parodies, lunges, and finally burrows down into some of the most intractable conundrums facing Christian seekers today. I know of no other writer who reads theology so deeply and so well. You come away from his work with a new understanding of play as sacrament. Think of this book as a stage onto which skip Tolstoy, St. Paul, the Gnostics, William Blake, Leonard Cohen, and, above all, Jesus, who makes many entrances and commands the most stage-time; think of it as Marionette Theatre where ideas come to play, parry with each other, bow, exit and re-enter with new masks and voices. In this play Mader keeps a directorial eye on his constant theme--Who was Jesus? How do we come to know him? What does he mean for our lives and, especially, what did he intend to mean? --J.S. Porter, author of THOMAS MERTON: HERMIT AT THE HEART OF THINGS In this bold new book Peter Rollins presents a vision of faith that has little regard for the institutions of Christendom. His uncompromising critique of religion, while often unsettling, is infused with a deep and abiding love for what it means to genuinely follow Christ. In opposition to those who would claim that Christian faith embraces God at the expense of the suffering world, Rollins shows how the true believer embraces God only inasmuch as he fully embraces a needy world. This short and accessible book introduces readers to the problems of heresy, schism and dissidence over the last two millennia. The heresies under discussion range from Gnosticism, influential in the early Christian period, right through

to modern sects. The idea of a heretic conjures up many images, from the martyrs prepared to die for their beliefs, through to sects with bizarre practices. This book provides a remarkable insight into the fraught history of heresy, showing how the Church came to insist on orthodoxy when threatened by alternative ideals, exploring the social and political conditions under which heretics were created, and how those involved were 'tested' and punished, often by imprisonment and burning. Engaging written, *A Brief History of Heresy* is enlivened throughout with fascinating examples of individuals and movements. A short, accessible history of heresy. Spans the last two millennia, from the Gnostics through to modern sects. Considers heresy in relation to ecclesial separatism, doctrinal disagreement, church order, and basic metaphysics. Enlivened with intriguing examples of individuals and movements. Written by a leading academic in the field of Religious History. Henry Edward Cardinal Manning wrote this prior to the First Vatican Council. Cardinal Manning lays out the reasons both for and against defining the infallibility of the Pope. The first reason he gives in favor of the definition is: "That if the Episcopate, priesthood, and people, are, with so few exceptions, unanimous in receiving with submission and assent the, Pontifical Acts, there would not only be no risk in promulgating such a decree, but they would rejoice to see the formal reason of that Catholic submission justified by an authoritative definition; or if the number of those who refuse submission be more numerous, a necessity thereby is proved for the declaration of the truth." Later on he gives us some interesting points: "Both Catholics and heretics agree in two things; first, that the Pontiff, even as Pontiff and with his counsellors, or even with a General Council, may err in controversies as to particular facts, which chiefly depend on the information and testimonies of men; secondly, that. the Pontiff, as a private doctor, may err even in questions of faith and morals; and that from ignorance, as at times happens to other doctors. Next, all Catholics agree in two other things, not indeed with heretics, but among themselves. First, that the Pontiff, with a General Council, cannot err in framing decrees of faith, or general precepts of morals. Secondly, that the Pontiff alone, or with his own private Council, whether he may err or not, in deciding anything in a dubious matter is, nevertheless, to be obediently listened to by all the faithful. These points so disposed of, only four opinions remain. The first is, that the Pontiff, even as Pontiff, although he define a doctrine with a General Council, may be a heretic himself, and teach heresy. . . . This is the opinion of all heretics, especially of Luther and Calvin. The second, that the Pontiff, even as Pontiff, may be a heretic, and may teach heresy if he define without a General Council. This is the opinion of Nilus and the later Greeks, of Gerson, Almain, and others. The third, that the Pontiff cannot in any way be heretical, or publicly teach heresy, even though he alone frame a definition: which is the opinion of Pighius in book iv., chap. 3, of the "Ecclesiastical Hierarchy. " The fourth, which lies between these extremes, is, that the Pontiff, whether personally he can be a heretic or no, cannot, in any event, define anything heretical to be believed by the whole Church. " This

is the most common opinion of nearly all Catholics," as S. Thomas says. Of these four opinions, the first is heretical: the second not properly heretical, for we see still that it is tolerated in the Church; yet it appears to be altogether erroneous, and proximate to heresy.' It is to be borne in mind that Bellarmine wrote this before the Four Articles of 1682 had been framed or censured. The third opinion is probable, but not certain. The fourth opinion is most certain, and to be asserted. Bellarmine in later years reviewed his 'Controversies,' and wrote of this point as follows: - This opinion is more rightly the common judgment of Catholics; for opinion implies uncertainty, and we hold this judgment to be certain.' And again, 'I said that the opinion of those who teach that infallibility of judgment resides not in the Pope, but in the General Council, is not plainly heretical, but erroneous and proximate to heresy., We do not, indeed, venture to pronounce that opinion plainly heretical, because they who follow it have, neither they nor their books, been condemned by the Church. Nevertheless, it seems to us so manifestly erroneous, that it may deservedly be declared by the judgment of the Church to be heretical. The first biography of a key and complex American religious figure of the nineteenth century, considered by many to be the "father of Shaker literature." Richard McNemar (1770–1839) led a remarkable life, replete with twists and turns that influenced American religions in many ways during the early nineteenth century. Beginning as a Presbyterian minister in the Midwest, he took his preaching and the practice of his congregation in a radically different, evangelical "free will" direction during the Kentucky Revival. A cornerstone of his New Light church in Ohio was spontaneous physical movement and exhortations. After Shaker missionaries arrived, McNemar converted and soon played a prominent role in expanding and raising public awareness of their religion by founding Shaker communities in the Midwest, becoming the first Shaker published author and the most prolific composer of Shaker hymns. Split between two opposing religious traditions—an evangelical movement attracting tens of thousands and Shakerism, which drew only hundreds to its villages—Richard McNemar's life poses a challenge for any biographer. Christian Goodwillie's mastery of the archival records surrounding McNemar and the Shakers allows him to tell McNemar's story in a way that fully captures the complexity of the man and the scope of his enduring legacy in American religious history. Heresy and Other Prayers is a conversation with the author's past-questioning what she was taught should never be questioned and unraveling hand-me-down beliefs from deeply-known truths. Explorations of the Divine Feminine and expressions of doubts about religious authority are unwelcome in many church communities, but these poems are evidence that even what might be considered heretical can contain whispers of prayer. The author's original photography is also featured in this debut chapbook. Among them are a politically incendiary prophet, a self-proclaimed hermaphrodite, and a morisco, an Islamic convert to Catholicism. Why the Church must defend the truth. Our ongoing fascination with alternative Christianities is on display every time a never-before-seen gospel text is

revealed, an archaeological discovery about Jesus makes front-page news, or a new work of fiction challenges the very foundations of the church. Now, in a timely corrective to this trend, renowned church historian Alister McGrath examines the history of subversive ideas, overturning common misconceptions that heresy is somehow more spiritual or liberating than traditional dogma. In so doing, he presents a powerful, compassionate orthodoxy that will equip the church to meet the challenge from renewed forms of heresy today. Religion has caused much strife in the world due to misinterpretations and mistranslations. Many don't take the time to learn about the other belief systems they decide to judge. People like to think their way is right and others' are wrong, which is ego. So many people treat others horribly in the name of religion. After much study of religions, Gnosticism, early Christianity, philosophy, biblical scholars, and spiritual teachers, Janine Palmer (Silver Moon) shares profound messages of different perspective to assist with ascension and rising above falsehood and illusion and back toward love. Sophronius' Synodical Letter was read out at the Sixth Ecumenical Council in 680-1, and provided the only sustained rebuttal of the monoenergist doctrine. This is the first publication of the letter in annotated translation alongside the original Greek. Includes a comprehensive introduction and further documents on the monoenergist doctrine. Substantial articles about movements and leaders condemned by the Catholic Church, and some of the people who did the condemning, torturing, and burning. Does not cover, for example, the radical sects of the 1640s in England, or the major Protestant reformers who were condemned in their time. Includes many reproductions of medieval illustrations. Annotation copyright by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR Distinguishing between religion and spirituality, Burke offers what he calls a new way of looking at God, one centered on the idea of grace. He emphasizes a God who is looking to save the world, not a God who seems more intent on condemning certain practices For Burke, God is to be questioned, not simply obeyed. His challenging thesis will appeal to many people today who have given up on organized religion but still seek some connection to spirituality. "Heretics And Heresies" by Robert Green Ingersoll. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten--or yet undiscovered gems--of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format. From a celebrated classicist and author of *The Darkening Age* ("[a] ballista-bolt of a book"--New York Times Book Review), a group biography of the many, diverse Jesuses who thrived in early Christian traditions--and how they were killed off until just one "true" Christ survived. Contrary to the teachings of the church today, in the first several centuries of Christianity's existence, there was no consensus as to who Jesus was or why he had mattered. Instead, there were many different Christs. One had a twin

brother and traveled to India; another consorted with dragons. One particularly terrifying Christ scorned his parents and killed those who opposed him. Why do we know so little about these early versions of Jesus? Because, starting in the fourth century AD, the orthodox form of Christianity that had become preeminent set about systematically wiping out every other variation, denouncing their gospels as apocryphal and their followers as heretics. These unfortunate Christians lost their rights, their property, their churches--in some cases, even their lives. Heretic unearths the different versions of Christ who existed in the minds of early Christians, and the process of evolution--and elimination--by which Jesus became the singular figure we know today. In this volume, noted church historians Justo and Catherine Gonzalez introduce readers to important early church figures whose teachings were denounced by the church as heresies. Instructional for what they taught and for revealing what the church wished to safeguard and uphold, these "heretics" are engagingly presented in their contexts through clear and accessible text that is highlighted by the humorous illustrations of Ron Hill. Traces the decline of Christianity in America since the 1950s, posing controversial arguments about the role of heresy in the nation's downfall while calling for a revival of traditional Christian practices. There is a lot of talk about heresy these days. The frequency and volume of accusations suggest that some Christians have lost a sense of the gravity of the word. On the other hand, many believers have little to no familiarity with orthodox doctrine or the historic distortions of it. What's needed is a strong dose of humility and restraint, and also a clear and informed definition of orthodoxy and heresy. Know the Heretics provides an accessible "travel guide" to the most significant heresies throughout Christian history. As a part of the KNOW series, it is designed for personal study or classroom use, but also for small groups and Sunday schools wanting to more deeply understand the foundations of the faith. Each chapter covers a key statement of faith and includes a discussion of its historical context; a simple explanation of the unorthodox teaching, the orthodox response and a key defender; reflections of contemporary relevance; and discussion questions. This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work was reproduced from the original artifact, and remains as true to the original work as possible. Therefore, you will see the original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other notations in the work. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. As a reproduction of a historical artifact, this work may contain missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge

alive and relevant. According to the commonly held view, early Christianity was a time of great harmony, and heresy emerged only at a later stage. To the contrary, Gerd Ludemann argues that the time from the first Christian communities to the end of the second century was defined by struggle by various groups for doctrinal authority. Drawing on a wealth of data, he asserts that the losers in this struggle actually represented Christianity in its more authentic, original form. Orthodoxy has been defined by the victors in this struggle and it is they who subsequently silenced alternative views and labeled them heretical.

Ludemann's findings are important as well as liberating for the understanding of both Christianity and the Bible. Readers will gain a new understanding of Jesus and the early church from this compelling and controversial book. Chesterton's description of his intellectual and philosophical journey to Christianity. Olympia Morata was a brilliant scholar and one of the finest writers of her day. This text publishes all her known writings - orations, dialogues, letters and poems - in an accessible English translation. DIVDIV This fascinating book explores the evolution of religious dualism, the doctrine that man and cosmos are constant battlegrounds between forces of good and evil. It traces this evolution from late Egyptian religion and the revelations of Zoroaster and the Orphics in antiquity through the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Mithraic Mysteries, and the great Gnostic teachers to its revival in medieval Europe with the suppression of the Bogomils and the Cathars, heirs to the age-long teachings of dualism. Integrating political, cultural, and religious history, Yuri Stoyanov illuminates the dualist religious systems, recreating in vivid detail the diverse worlds of their striking ideas and beliefs, their convoluted mythologies and symbolism. Reviews of an earlier edition: "A book of prime importance for anyone interested in the history of religious dualism. The author's knowledge of relevant original sources is remarkable; and he has distilled them into a convincing and very readable whole."—Sir Steven Runciman "The most fascinating historical detective story since Steven Runciman's Sicilian Vespers."—Colin Wilson "A splendid account of the decline of the dualist tradition in the East . . . both strong and accessible. . . . The most readable account of Balkan heresy ever."—Jeffrey B. Russell, *Journal of Religion* "Well-written, fact-filled, and fascinating . . . has in it the making of a classic." —Harry T. Norris, *Bulletin of SOAS*/div/div Continuing her journey from a deeply religious Islamic upbringing to a post at Harvard, the brilliant, charismatic and controversial New York Times and Globe and Mail #1 bestselling author of *Infidel* and *Nomad* makes a powerful plea for a Muslim Reformation as the only way to end the horrors of terrorism, sectarian warfare and the repression of women and minorities. Today, she argues, the world's 1.6 billion Muslims can be divided into a minority of extremists, a majority of observant but peaceable Muslims and a few dissidents who risk their lives by questioning their own religion. But there is only one Islam and, as Hirsi Ali shows, there is no denying that some of its key teachings—not least the duty to wage holy war—are incompatible with the values of a free society. For centuries it has seemed as if Islam is immune to change. But Hirsi Ali has

come to believe that a Muslim Reformation—a revision of Islamic doctrine aimed at reconciling the religion with modernity—is now at hand, and may even have begun. The Arab Spring may now seem like a political failure. But its challenge to traditional authority revealed a new readiness—not least by Muslim women—to think freely and to speak out. Courageously challenging the jihadists, she identifies five key amendments to Islamic doctrine that Muslims have to make to bring their religion out of the seventh century and into the twenty-first. And she calls on the Western world to end its appeasement of the Islamists. “Islam is not a religion of peace,” she writes. It is the Muslim reformers who need our backing, not the opponents of free speech. Interweaving her own experiences, historical analogies and powerful examples from contemporary Muslim societies and cultures, *Heretic* is not a call to arms, but a passionate plea for peaceful change and a new era of global toleration. In the wake of the Charlie Hebdo murders, with jihadists killing thousands from Nigeria to Syria to Pakistan, this book offers an answer to what is fast becoming the world’s number one problem. A New York Public Library Best Book of the Year! Put an atheist in a strict Catholic school? Expect comedy, chaos, and an Inquisition. The Breakfast Club meets *Saved!* in debut author Katie Henry’s hilarious novel about a band of misfits who set out to challenge their school, one nun at a time. Perfect for fans of Becky Albertalli and Robyn Schneider. When Michael walks through the doors of Catholic school, things can’t get much worse. His dad has just made the family move again, and Michael needs a friend. When a girl challenges their teacher in class, Michael thinks he might have found one, and a fellow atheist at that. Only this girl, Lucy, isn’t just Catholic . . . she wants to be a priest. Lucy introduces Michael to other St. Clare’s outcasts, and he officially joins *Heretics Anonymous*, where he can be an atheist, Lucy can be an outspoken feminist, Avi can be Jewish and gay, Max can wear whatever he wants, and Eden can practice paganism. Michael encourages the *Heretics* to go from secret society to rebels intent on exposing the school’s hypocrisies one stunt at a time. But when Michael takes one mission too far—putting the other *Heretics* at risk—he must decide whether to fight for his own freedom or rely on faith, whatever that means, in God, his friends, or himself. In the flames of unceasing war, a young archer's heart, will, and courage will be supremely tested in the conclusion of an epic quest for vengeance and the greatest prize in all history: The Holy Grail. In this collection of stories, controversial author and fearless gadfly Nowicki examines the lives of the desperate, the spiritually ravaged, and the emotionally obsessed. Readers will want to come back to these stories again and again, each time discovering something compelling and new. *I Call it Heresy* is a vibrant study of the Lordship controversy long before it became a major player on the theological stage. A.W. Tozer tackles the heresy of accepting Jesus Christ as Savior but believing you postpone accepting him as lord over your life. In *I Call It Heresy*, A.W. Tozer uses 1 Peter as his base to launch out into such themes as holiness, humility, the qualities of our divine inheritance and nine other timely topics. Originally from *Tozer Pulpit*, vol. 5, this

collection of sermons and reflections on 1 Peter addresses very interesting and timely issues. It highlights the appeal of being of Christ's followers and being under His Lordship, helping us to say, "How satisfying it is to be under His authority!" A lively examination of the heretics who helped Christianity become the world's most powerful religion. From Arius, a fourth-century Libyan cleric who doubted the very divinity of Christ, to more successful heretics like Martin Luther and John Calvin, this book charts the history of dissent in the Christian Church. As the author traces the Church's attempts at enforcing orthodoxy, from the days of Constantine to the modern Catholic Church's lingering conflicts, he argues that heresy—by forcing the Church to continually refine and impose its beliefs—actually helped Christianity to blossom into one of the world's most formidable religions. Today, all believers owe it to themselves to grapple with the questions raised by heresy. Can you be a Christian without denouncing heretics? Is it possible that new ideas challenging Church doctrine are destined to become as popular as Luther's once-outrageous suggestions of clerical marriage and a priesthood of all believers? A delightfully readable and deeply learned new history, *Heretics* overturns our assumptions about the role of heresy in a faith that still shapes the world. "Wright emphasizes the 'extraordinarily creative role' that heresy has played in the evolution of Christianity by helping to 'define, enliven, and complicate' it in dialectical fashion. Among the world's great religions, Christianity has been uniquely rich in dissent, Wright argues—especially in its early days, when there was so little agreement among its adherents that one critic compared them to a marsh full of frogs croaking in discord."

—The New Yorker 'In the beginning was the Word,' says the Gospel of John. This sentence – and the words of all four gospels – are central to the teachings of the Christian church and have shaped Western art, literature and language, and the Western mind. Yet in the years after the death of Christ there was not merely one word, nor any consensus as to who Jesus was or why he had mattered. There were many different Jesuses, among them the aggressive Jesus who scorned his parents and crippled those who opposed him, the Jesus who sold his twin into slavery and the Jesus who had someone crucified in his stead. Moreover, in the early years of the first millennium there were many other saviours, many sons of gods who healed the sick and cured the lame. But as Christianity spread, they were pronounced unacceptable – even heretical – and they faded from view. Now, in *Heretic*, Catherine Nixey tells their extraordinary story, one of contingency, chance and plurality. It is a story about what might have been. Using an interdisciplinary approach, Kelman underscores the role that common people have played in shaping the city and portrays the Mississippi as an active participant in New Orleans's history."--BOOK

JACKET. St John Cassian's little treatise on the Incarnation is of a very different character his better-known works of spirituality, the Institutes and the Collations. Cassian wrote the *De Incarnatione* in 429, at the request of Leo, Archdeacon of Rome, as part of the build-up to the condemnation of Nestorius at the Synod of Rome in 430 and the general Council

of Ephesus in 431. Leo was himself to become Pope in 440, and intervene conclusively in the next Christological crisis, the Monophysite over-reaction to Nestorianism, settled at the Council of Chalcedon in 451. The great divisions which afflicted Christendom in the sixteenth century left the doctrine of the nature of Christ largely intact, so that Catholics, Orthodox and Protestants could at least agree on the conclusions of the first four General Councils. That all changed in the twentieth century, when the 'modernist' or 'liberal' movement in theology gained control over most Protestant and many Catholic writers. Many moderns, who still claim to be Christians, have consciously or unconsciously revived all the erroneous opinions which Cassian nicely terms the 'weeds' in the garden of God. This makes Cassian's work all the more relevant to Christians in the twenty-first century. A refutation of the heresy we know as Nestorianism, it also deals effectively with many other erroneous ideas on the nature of Christ - those of Ebion, Carinthus, Marcion, Sabellius, Arius, and Pelagius, the last of whom is specifically attacked in the fifth book of the treatise. Nestorius himself, as Patriarch of Constantinople, became notorious when he publicly denied that it was appropriate to call the Virgin Mary 'Theotokos' - the one who brought God to birth, or simply 'Mother of God'. Now all these ancient heresies, Ebionism, Cerinthianism, Marcionism, Sabellianism, Arianism, Pelagianism and Nestorianism, can be found happily ensconced in the common rooms of our great universities. Cassian teaches the fundamental Catholic principle of ongoing revelation through both Scripture and Tradition, and the authority of the living Church. In support of his work he quotes the Fathers, the great writers who have been accepted as authoritative by Orthodox and Catholic alike, although of course here they are his own actual or near contemporaries, and shows how the true interpretation of the Bible leads only to a Catholic conclusion. Jesus Christ is true God and true Man. Remember Your Wings Maybe I'm learning to love more, Maybe I opened the gate, Maybe I don't have the answers, Maybe this comes down to fate. Maybe we danced once in heaven, Maybe we're angels on earth, Maybe you're the only one for me, Maybe my heart was yours first. Maybe your soul called out to me, Maybe my soul pulled you near, Maybe I've known you forever, Maybe you're the reason I'm here. Maybe my heart sings only to you, Maybe my love knows no bounds, Maybe our love is so pure and true, Maybe our treasure is found. Maybe I'll hold you forever, Maybe I remember your wings, Maybe I'm ever so thankful, Your divinity to my heart sings. Janine Palmer (Silver Moon) Book 1 (p. 1-229), "Ha-anus shel ha-tevunah" ("The Marrano of Reason") appeared in English as "Spinoza and Other Heretics; Vol. 1: The Marrano of Reason" (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1989). The Fool and the Heretic is a deeply personal story told by two respected scientists who hold opposing views on the topic of origins, share a common faith in Jesus Christ, and began a sometimes-painful journey to explore how they can remain in Christian fellowship when each thinks the other is harming the church. To some in the church, anyone who accepts the theory of evolution has rejected biblical teaching and is therefore thought of as a

heretic. To many outside the church as well as a growing number of evangelicals, anyone who accepts the view that God created the earth in six days a few thousand years ago must be poorly educated and ignorant--a fool. Todd Wood and Darrel Falk know what it's like to be thought of, respectively, as a fool and a heretic. This book shares their pain in wearing those labels, but more important, provides a model for how faithful Christians can hold opposing views on deeply divisive issues yet grow deeper in their relationship to each other and to God. One of the most unusual books in classical Arabic literature, *The Epistle of Forgiveness* is the lengthy reply by the prolific Syrian poet and prose writer, Abu l-'Ala' al-Ma'arri (d. 449/1057), to a letter by an obscure grammarian, Ibn al-Qarih. With biting irony, *The Epistle of Forgiveness* mocks Ibn al-Qarih's hypocrisy and sycophancy by imagining he has died and arrived with some difficulty in Heaven, where he meets famous poets and philologists from the past. He also glimpses Hell, and converses with the Devil and various heretics. Al-Ma'arri—a maverick, a vegan, and often branded a heretic himself—seems to mock popular ideas about the Hereafter. This second volume is a point-by-point reply to Ibn al-Qarih's letter using al-Ma'arri's characteristic mixture of erudition, irony, and admonition, enlivened with anecdotes and poems. Among other things, he writes about hypocrites; heretical poets, princes, rebels, and mystics; apostates; piety; superstition; the plight of men of letters; collaborative authorship; wine-drinking; old age; repentance; pre-Islamic pilgrimage customs; and money. This remarkable book is the first complete translation in any language, all the more impressive because of al-Ma'arri's highly ornate and difficult style, his use of rhymed prose, and numerous obscure words and expressions. A bilingual Arabic-English edition.

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