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内容简介

The Wordsworth Poetry Library comprises the works of the greatest English-speaking poets, as well as many lesser-known poets. Each collection has a specially commissioned introduction. This volume includes all of Yeats's published poetry, from the hauntingly beautiful early lyrics by which he is still best remembered, to the later work which some argue put beyond question his status as one of the foremost poets of his age.

作者简介

William Butler Yeats, whom many consider this century'sgreatest poet, began as a bard of the Celtic Twilight, revivinglegends and Rosicrucian symbols. By the early 1900s, however, hewas moving away from plush romanticism, his verse morphing from theincantatory rhythms of "I will arise and go now, and go toInnisfree" into lyrics "as cold and passionate as the dawn." Atevery stage, however, Yeats plays a multiplicity of poetic roles. There is the romantic lover of "When You Are Old" and "A Poet toHis Beloved" ("I bring you with reverent Hands / The books of mynumberless dreams..."). And there are the far more bittercelebrations of Maud Gonne, who never accepted his love and engagedin too much politicking for his taste: "Why should I blame her thatshe filled my days / With misery, or that she would of late / Havetaught to ignorant men most violent ways, / Or hurled the littlestreets upon the great, / Had they but courage equal to desire?"There is also the poet of conscience--and confrontation. His 1931"Remorse for Intemperate Speech" ends: "Out of Ireland have wecome. / Great hatred, little room, / Maimed us at the start. / Icarried from my mother's womb / A fanatic heart."

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