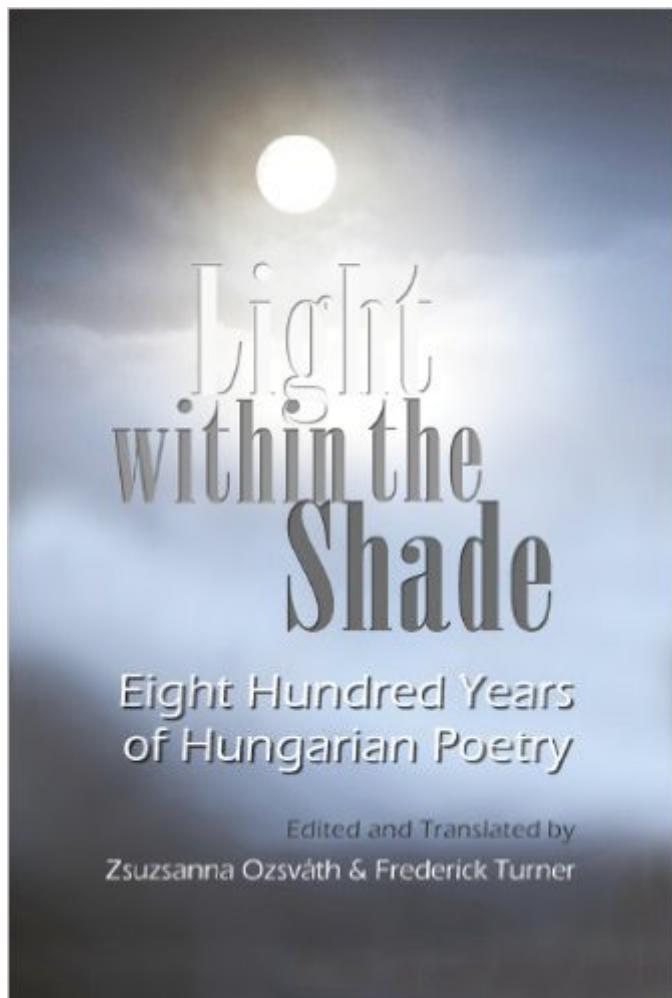


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Light Within The Shade: Eight Hundred Years Of Hungarian Poetry



Synopsis

The pure verbal energy characterizing Hungarian poetry may be regarded as one of the most striking components of Hungarian culture. More than 800 years ago, under the inspiration of classical and medieval Latin poetry, Hungarian poets began to craft a rich chain of poetic designs, much of it in response to the country's cataclysmic history. With precision, depth, and great intensity, these verses give accounts of their authors' vision of themselves as participants in history and their most personal experience in the world. Light within the Shade includes 135 of the most important Hungarian poems ranging from the fourteenth to the twenty-first century. Organized in chronological order, the poems are followed by an essay by Ozsváth providing the historical, biographical, and cultural background of the poets and the poetry. The book concludes with Turner's essay on the special thematic and literary qualities of Hungarian poetry, as well as notes on translation practices. This essential volume exposes English-speaking readers to Hungarian poetry's artistic achievement in history and culture, its evolutionary development as a tradition, and its significance within the context of world literature.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A real service to Hungarian studies to have a collection of poems which reflect the breadth of the Hungarian literary tradition. The translations are very good and the explanatory material is helpful and focuses on those aspects of Hungarian poetry which make it unique while showing that it is very much within the Western tradition. A real service to all who wish to learn more about Hungarian culture but do not know the language. Poetry has been such an integral part of the culture, history,

and mind-set of the nation that its importance goes beyond what we often think of as "merely" aesthetics in the West.

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