



Hypnerotomachia Poliphili: The Strife of Love in a Dream (Hardback)

By Francesco Colonna

Benediction Books. Hardcover. Condition: New. 212 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.2in. x 0.8in. Poliphilos Strife of Love in a Dream, is a romance said to be by Francesco Colonna. First published in Venice, 1499, in an elegant page layout, with refined woodcut illustrations in an Early Renaissance style, Hypnerotomachia Poliphili presents a mysterious arcane allegory in which Poliphilo pursues his love Polia through a dreamlike landscape, and is at last reconciled with her by the Fountain of Venus. The text of the book is written in a bizarre Latinate Italian, full of words based on Latin and Greek roots without explanation. The book, however, also includes words from the Italian language, as well as illustrations including Arabic and Hebrew words; Colonna also invented new languages when the ones available to him were inaccurate. (It also contains some uses of Egyptian hieroglyphs, but they are not authentic, most being drawn from Horapollo's erroneous volume of symbolism.) Its story, which is set in 1467, consists of precious and elaborate descriptions of scenes involving the title character, Poliphilo (Friend of Many Things, from Greek Polloi Many and Philos Friend), as he wanders a sort of bucolic-classical dreamland in search of his love Polia...



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