

# The Columbia Anthology of Yuan Drama; 9780231122672; 496 pages; Columbia University Press, 2014; 2014; C. T. Hsia, Wai-ye Li, George Kao

Burton Watson. Wei Shang. The Columbia anthology of Yuan drama. C. T. Hsia, Wai-ye Li, & George Kao. Editors. Yuan drama is now recognized as one of the great achievements of Chinese vernacular literature. By turn lyrical and earthy (even vulgar), sentimental and ironic, Yuan drama commands an emotional and linguistic range that should earn it a rightful place in world theater and world literature. Combining sung arias, declaimed verses, doggerels, dialogues, mime, jokes, and probably acrobatic feats, it was a vital part of the culture of performance and entertainment in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. It provides a repertoire of stories and themes that are continually reworked in later periods. To date, few Yuan-dynasty plays have been translated into English. A general introduction situates all selections within their cultural and historical contexts. Read full description. See details and exclusions - The Columbia Anthology of Yuan Drama - 9780231122672. See all 10 brand new listings. Buy it now. A much broader representation of Yuan zaju drama than previous translations offer. What's more, the editors do a marvelous job providing ample historical sources for the plays. These rich and detailed annotations make it especially useful for teaching purposes and for general readers. - Tian Yuan Tan, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London This magnificent collection represents the great variety in subject and style on the early Chinese stage. C. T. Hsia (1921-2013) is professor emeritus of Chinese at Columbia University. His books include *The Classic Chinese Novel* and *A History of Modern Chinese Fiction*. He is also the coeditor, with Joseph S. M. Lau and Leo O. Lee, of *Modern Chinese Stories and Novellas, 1919-1949*.