



## FitzGerald's Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám

### Popularity and Neglect

Edited by Adrian Poole, Christine van Ruymbeke,  
William H. Martin and Sandra Mason

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### Description

**A major new analysis of FitzGerald's *Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám*, exploring the reasons for its academic neglect despite its general fame.**

'This is the best volume now available on FitzGerald's solicitous intelligence as translator and poet, his impleached arts of living and language, his sexual and religious ambivalences. Combining sensitive and sensible practical criticism with painstaking material and social histories of influence, it should attract further explorations of the alien vision and "new world of feeling" offered by the *Rubáiyát's* conciliation of cultures.' —*Dr Christopher Decker, University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

Edward FitzGerald's *Rubáiyát*, loosely based on verses attributed to the eleventh-century Persian writer, Omar Khayyám, has become one of the most widely known poems in the world, republished virtually every year from 1879 to the present day, and translated into over eighty different languages. And yet it has been largely ignored or at best patronized by the academic establishment. This volume sets out to explore the reasons for both the popularity and the neglect.

**Readership:** Specialists in Victorian poetry and culture, Persian studies and orientalism; general readers and book collectors with a special interest in the *Rubáiyát*.

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### About the Editors

**Adrian Poole** is Professor of English Literature at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. **Christine van Ruymbeke** is Soudavar Lecturer in Persian Studies at the University of Cambridge, and was formerly Lecturer at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium). William H. Martin and Sandra Mason are independent researchers with a long-standing interest in FitzGerald's *Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám*.

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