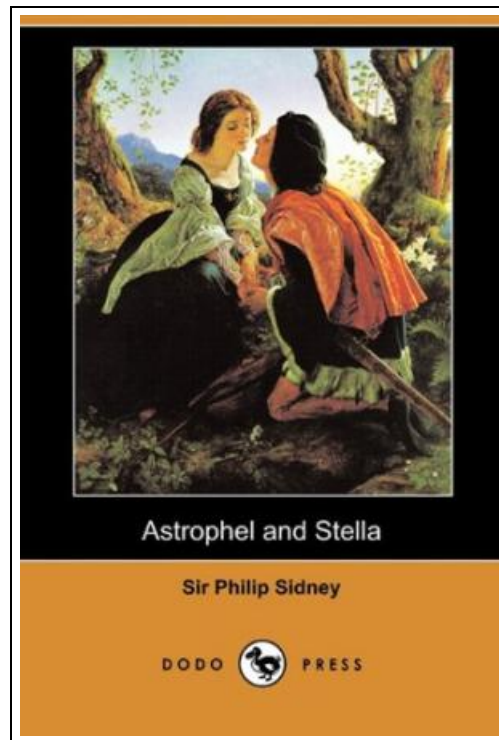


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ASTROPHEL AND STELLA (DODO PRESS)



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Dodo Press, United Kingdom, 2010. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 224 x 150 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Likely composed in the 1580s by Philip Sidney, *Astrophel and Stella* is an English sonnet sequence containing 108 sonnets and 11 songs. The name derives from the two Greek words, aster (star) and phil (lover), and the Latin word stella meaning star. Thus Astrophel is the star lover, and Stella is his star. Sidney partly nativized the key features of his Italian model Petrarch, including an ongoing but partly obscure narrative, the philosophical trappings of the poet in relation to love and desire, and musings on the art of poetic creation. Sidney also adopts the Petrarchan rhyme scheme, though he uses it with such freedom that fifteen variants are employed. Sir Philip Sidney (1554-1586) became one of the Elizabethan Age s most prominent figures. In 1572, after studying at Christ Church, Oxford, he travelled to France as part of the embassy to negotiate a marriage between Elizabeth I and the Duc D Alencon. He spent the next several years in mainland Europe. On these travels, he met a number of prominent European intellectuals and politicians. Returning to England in 1575, he occupied himself with politics and art. More seriously, he quarrelled with Edward de Vere, 17th Earl of Oxford, and Sidney challenged de Vere to a duel, which Elizabeth forbade. He then wrote a lengthy letter to the Queen detailing the foolishness of the French marriage. Characteristically, Elizabeth bristled at his presumption, and Sidney prudently retired from court. Sidney had returned to court by the middle of 1581 and was knighted in 1583. His artistic contacts were more peaceful and more significant for his lasting fame. Famous in his day as a poet, courtier and soldier, he...



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