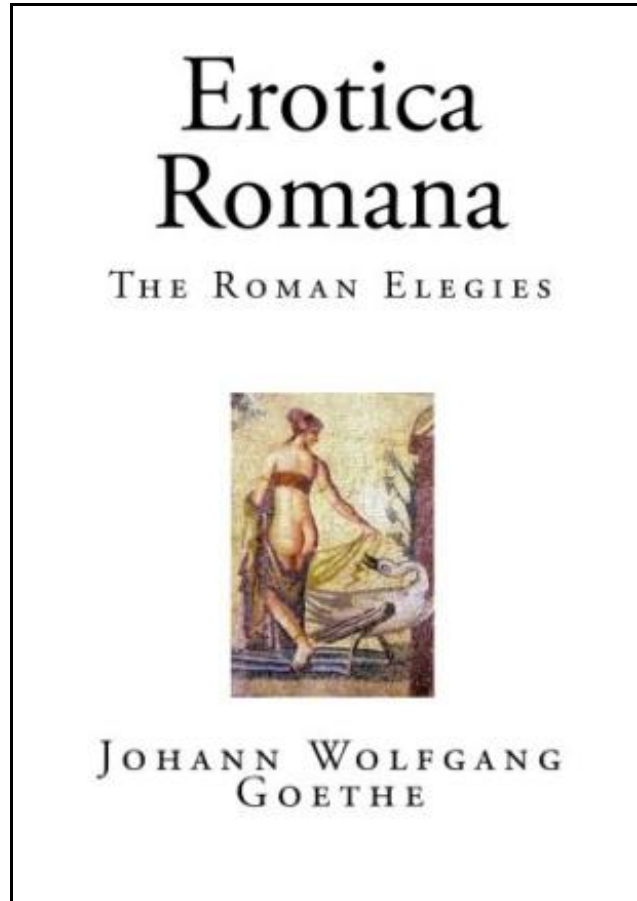


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## EROTICA ROMANA: THE ROMAN ELEGIES



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Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Erotica Romana - The Roman Elegies - By Johann Wolfgang Goethe - The Roman Elegies (originally published under the title Erotica Romana in Germany, later Romische Elegien) is a cycle of twenty-four poems by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. They reflect his Italian Journey 1786-88 and celebrate the sensuality and vigour of Italian and Classical culture. Written mainly after his return to Weimar, they contain poems on many sexual themes, and four of them were suppressed from publication during Goethe's lifetime due to fears of [censorship]; they were only published in 1914, together with a large body of the Venetian Epigrams, written during his second, shorter travel to Italy in 1790. The elegies are also a loving tribute to Goethe's companion, Christiane Vulpius, whom he met in 1788 on his return from Italy Goethe cultivated a special, italianate hand for this portfolio of twenty-four elegies, so called because he was emulating the elegiacs of Imperial Rome, Tibullus, Propertius, Catullus. The Elegies have never before been published as here, together in the cyclical form of their original conception. Experts even denied that the two priapeia (I XXIV) were by Goethe at all, although they are in the same hand as the rest. To be sure, these two are not numbered, so that I was long undecided as to just what their proper position might be. At one time I imagined they must belong at the middle of the cycle where at the end of Elegy XIII Priapus mother summons her son. Obviously Goethe, just returned north from his two years in Italy (1786-88), and alienated from prim, courtly friends (especially since he had taken a girlfriend into his...



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