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Through Human Love to God: Essays on Dante and Petrarch (Paperback)

By Pamela Williams

Troubador Publishing, United Kingdom, 2007. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New.. 232 x 158 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Dante and Petrarch are two of the world's greatest love poets who convey the story of their emotional, intellectual, and religious life in part through a story of human love. The focus here is not so much on the myriad symbolic values and associations of Beatrice and Laura but rather both on the attitudes of these two poets to sexual desire in order to throw some light on the character of their human love and on the status and value they give to human love in the context of their Christian lives. For all the stark contrasts between them, Dante and Petrarch have been often compared, for they write in a common literary, classical, and Christian tradition. The comparison generally leads to the conclusion that Dante describes his human love experience as positive and constructive whilst Petrarch's experience of love is negative and destructive. My intention here is not to polarize their views in this way, but rather to identify the different yet positive and highly original value both poets attribute to human love. More...



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