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The Salt Smugglers

By Gerard de Nerval

Archipelago Books. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Salt Smugglers, Gerard de Nerval, "If ever a writer . . . sought to define himself painstakingly to himself, to grasp and bring light to the murky shadings, the deepest laws and most elusive impressions of the human soul, it was Gerard de Nerval."--Marcel Proust Originally published as a serial work in the 1850s, The Salt Smugglers is a biting and hilarious satire of the politics and censorship of literature; it is an unearthed pre-postmodern classic. By writing a first-person narrative text in which he himself is in search of a lost book containing the history of the Abbe de Bucquoy, Gerard de Nerval is able to evade the French censorship law forbidding fiction newspaper serials while at the same time underscoring its ludicrousness. With its innumerable quotations and tangential citations, The Salt Smugglers leads the reader into a dizzying spin, making way for all experimental and postmodern fiction since. Gerard de Nerval was a poet, visionary, short story writer, autobiographer, and translator. His works include Aurelia, a memoir of madness; Sylvie, a novella of love and memory; and the hermetic sonnets of The Chimeras; as well as many fantastic tales...



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