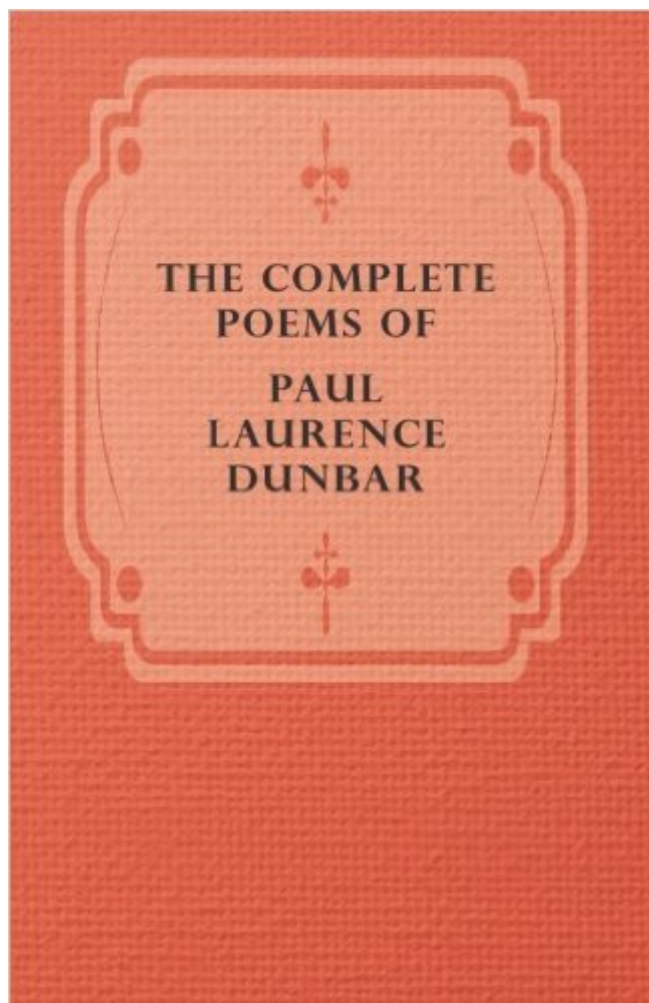


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The Complete Poems Of Paul Laurence Dunbar



Synopsis

This volume contains the complete poetical works of Paul Laurence Dunbar. Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872–1906) was an African-American novelist, poet, and dramatist during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This fantastic collection will appeal to all lovers of the form, and would make for a great addition to any bookshelf. Poems include: "Lyrics of Lowly Life", "Ere Sleep Comes Down To Soothe the Weary Eyes", "The Poet and His Song", "Retort", "Accountability", "Frederick Douglass", "Life", "The Lesson", "The Rising of the Storm", "Sunset", "The Old Apple-Tree", et cetera. Many vintage classics such as this are becoming increasingly rare and expensive. We are republishing this volume now in an affordable, modern, high-quality edition complete with a specially commissioned new biography of the author.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Paul Laurence Dunbar was the first great Black poet; Booker T. Washington called him the "Poet Laureate of the Negro Race". Dunbar, the son of ex-slaves, grew up in Dayton, OH, where he was friendly with the Wright Brothers. He had a successful high school career--founding editor of the school paper and elected class president of the predominantly white school--but upon graduation, he was forced to work as an elevator operator. His second book of poetry was praised by William Dean Howells and by age 24, he was one of the most renowned Black literary figures in America. Dunbar wrote in two different styles. On the one hand, he wrote straightforward classic

verse that was filled with racial pride: THE COLORED SOLDIERS IF the muse were mine to tempt it
And my feeble voice were strong, If my tongue were trained to measures, I would sing a stirring
song. I would sing a song heroic Of those noble sons of Ham, Of the gallant colored soldiers Who
fought for Uncle Sam! In the early days you scorned them, And with many a flip and flout Said
"These battles are the white man's, And the whites will fight them out." Up the hills you fought and
faltered, In the vales you strove and bled, While your ears still heard the thunder Of the foes'
advancing tread. Then distress fell on the nation, And the flag was drooping low; Should the dust
pollute your banner? No! the nation shouted, No! So when War, in savage triumph, Spread abroad
his funeral pall-- Then you called the colored soldiers, And they answered to your call. And like
hounds unleashed and eager For the life blood of the prey, Sprung they forth and bore them bravely
In the thickest of the fray.

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