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Turtle Was Gone a Long Time: v. 1: Crossing the Kedron

By John Moriarty

The Lilliput Press Ltd. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, *Turtle Was Gone a Long Time: v. 1: Crossing the Kedron*, John Moriarty, The title derives from the diver myth found in Siberia and North America, in particular among the Maidu Indians of California. Diving to the floor of the abyss to find intuitions of the world, the work is a mystical quest, from form to void and back, and enacts one of the central themes of European literature, the journey from *Paradise Lost* to *Paradise Regained*. In a century in which the human being first set foot on the moon, it attempts 'to come ashore upon the earth in its perennial first morning'. And just as Homer's *Odyssey* underpinned Joyce's *Ulysses*, so *Turtle* is informed by the eschatological journey of the soul as Ancient Egyptians understood it—the post-mortem experience of an underworld, its powers and terrors, yielding to fields of light. The Overture or introduction is a synoptic rehearsal of what follows: three nocturnes in a Tenebrae. 'Engwura Now' contains forty poems enlarged by prose commentaries—rites of passage proposing an emergence into instinctive maturity, a New Heroism. In profound dialogue with religions and cultures, it seeks to 'make them...



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