

## Letter from the General Editor

The Library of Arabic Literature is a new series offering Arabic editions and English translations of key works of classical and pre-modern Arabic literature, as well as anthologies and thematic readers. Books in the series are edited and translated by distinguished scholars of Arabic and Islamic studies, and are published in parallel-text format with Arabic and English on facing pages. The Library of Arabic Literature includes texts from the pre-Islamic era to the cusp of the modern period, and encompasses a wide range of genres, including poetry, poetics, fiction, religion, philosophy, law, science, history, and historiography.

Supported by a grant from the New York University Abu Dhabi Institute, and established in partnership with NYU Press, the Library of Arabic Literature produces authoritative Arabic editions and modern, lucid English translations, with the goal of introducing the Arabic literary heritage to scholars and students, as well as to a general audience of readers.

Philip F. Kennedy

*General Editor, Library of Arabic Literature*

رسالة الغفران  
لأبي العلاء المعريّ  
المجلد الثاني

The Epistle of Forgiveness  
or  
A Pardon to Enter the Garden

by

Abū l-‘Alā’ al-Ma‘arrī

edited and translated by  
GEERT JAN VAN GELDER  
and  
GREGOR SCHOELER

Volume Two:  
Hypocrites, Heretics,  
and Other Sinners



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS  
*New York and London*

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY PRESS

*New York and London*

Copyright © 2014 by New York University

All rights reserved

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Abū al-‘Alā’ al-Ma‘arrī, 973-1057.

The epistle of forgiveness or, A pardon to enter the garden / by Abū l-‘Alā’  
al-Ma‘arrī ; edited and translated by Geert Jan van Gelder and Gregor  
Schoeler.

volumes cm

Bilingual English and Arabic edition.

Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

ISBN 978-0-8147-6378-0 (cl : alk. paper) -- ISBN 978-0-8147-6899-0  
(e-book) -- ISBN 978-0-8147-7197-6 (e-book) -- ISBN 978-0-8147-7194-5 (cl :  
v. 2) -- ISBN 978-0-8147-6896-9 (e-book : v. 2) -- ISBN 978-0-8147-6970-6  
(e-book : v. 2)

I. Gelder, G. J. H. van, translator editor. II. Schoeler, Gregor,  
translator editor. III. Abū al-‘Alā’ al-Ma‘arrī, 973-1057. *Risālat*  
*al-ghufrān*. IV. Abū al-‘Alā’ al-Ma‘arrī, 973-1057. *Risālat al-ghufrān*.  
English. V. Ibn al-Qāriḥ, ‘Alī ibn Maṣṣūr, b. 962. *Risālat Ibn al-Qāriḥ*. VI.  
Ibn al-Qāriḥ, ‘Alī ibn Maṣṣūr, b. 962. *Risālat Ibn al-Qāriḥ*. English. VII.  
Title. VIII. Title: Pardon to enter the garden.

PJ7750.A25R513 2013

892.7<sup>1</sup>134--dc23

2013007519

CIP

New York University Press books are printed on acid-free paper,  
and their binding materials are chosen for strength and durability.

Series design by Titus Nemeth.

Typeset in Tasmeeem, using DecoType Naskh and Emiri.

Typesetting and digitization by Stuart Brown.

Manufactured in the United States of America

c 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

*To Josef van Ess, who, like no other, knows about Islamic  
heretics, on the occasion of his eightieth birthday*

(... وَبَلَّغْتَهَا!)