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Ben MacKworth-Praed

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#1018807 in Books 1993-07-31 Original language: English PDF # 1 #File Name: 185891004870 pages | File size: 54.Mb

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"The Book of Kells" every year, to those interested in history, art or ancient artefacts and anyone with a passion for beautiful objects.

From the Publisher These exquisite little hardcover volumes of classic illuminated manuscripts--with gold-leaf detailing and sumptuous full-color illustrations--are elegant as well as inexpensive, making them the perfect gift or impulse buy for all who cherish the rich legacy of Christian art. About the Author The Book of Kells, less widely known as the Book of Columba, is an ornately illustrated manuscript, produced by Celtic monks around AD 800 in the style known as Insular art. It is one of the more lavishly illuminated manuscripts to survive from the Middle Ages and has been described as one of the greatest examples of Western calligraphy and illumination. It contains the four gospels of the Bible in Latin, along with prefatory and explanatory matter decorated with numerous colourful illustrations and illuminations. Today it is on permanent display at the Trinity College Library in Dublin, Ireland where it attracts over 500,000 visitors per year.