German literature in this period starts in the second half of the 15th century, with folk-based literary traditions carried over from the medieval period, such as the Schwank (often humorous short tales) and the Fastnachtspiel (carnival play), as well as satirical works inspired by the new ideas of humanism. This is perhaps best exemplified in Martin Opitz’s revolutionary work, Buch der Deutschen Poeterey; Book of German Poetics (1624), which was a significant inspiration for the work of the poet Paul Fleming. Attitudes to poetics altered over the course of the early modern period, with, for example, Hoffmann von Hoffmannswaldau frequently poking fun at the Petrarchan conventions found in much of Fleming’s work. 4: Early Modern German Literature Edited by Max Reinhart, University of Georgia Vol. 5: German Literature of the Eighteenth Century: The Enlightenment and Sensibility Edited by Barbara Becker-Cantarino, Ohio State University Vol. 6: Literature of the Sturm und Drang Edited by David Hill, University of Birmingham, UK Vol. 7: The Literature of Weimar Classicism Edited by Simon Richter, University of Pennsylvania Vol. works, and literary traditions in medieval Germany, during what has come among German literary scholars to be known as the first Blütezeit, or period of flourishing, of literature in the German vernacular, from ca. 1170 to ca.