The drama, especially Comedy of Manners proved to be one of the most important genres in the Restoration Era. It started developing after reopening of the theatres in 1660. The cynical decadence of the age was alien to the spirit of the Elizabethan romantic comedy. The exquisite poetry of Elizabethan comedy yields place to prose in Restoration comedy, the poetry being reserved for the more rapturous moments. The main plot is very often accompanied by sub-plots, sometimes more than one, all revolving around the extra-marital affairs and sexual intrigue. In the comedy of manners the passion and emotion are replaced by a rapier-sharp wit with a crystalline polish.
and hardness. Bonamy Dobree called this bonanza of wit 'verbal pyrotechnics'. Marginalia book. Read 8 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. From Pierre de Fermat to Samuel Taylor Coleridge to Graham Greene, readers... For hundreds of years, readers have talked to other people in the margins of their books—not only to authors, but also to friends, lovers, and future generations. With an infectious enthusiasm for her subject, Jackson reflects on the cultural and historical value of writing in the margins, examines works that have invited passionate annotation, and presents examples of some of the most provocative marginalia. Imaginative, amusing, and poignant, this book will be treasured by—and maybe even annotated by—anyone who cares about reading. ...more. Get A Copy. Amazon. Restoration Drama and Prose. The Restoration of King Charles II to the English throne in 1660 brought a new change in English literature. Previously closed theatres were opened again. New groups of writers began to write plays. During the restoration period, we also notice some development in prose work. John Dryden wrote his critical work named Essay on Dramatic Poesy. In this work, Dryden compares English drama with French drama. He points out the limitations of French drama and considers English drama to be superior to French drama. He has written it in a clear, reasonable and balanced way. It is supposed that he wrote this play by improving Shakespeare's play Antony and Cleopatra. Of the tragedies by other dramatists, there are three best heroic plays written by Thomas Otway. Restoration Drama Characteristics - Restoration Tragedy and Restoration Comedy - Theatres were closed during the Puritan Age. During the Restoration Age, they re-opened with new types of plays and performances which were different than the before. The theatres which were indoor were much smaller than the Elizabethan theatres. This tragedy was only near tragedy. The theme of the heroic plays was based on the struggle between love and honor, the hero and heroine were cast on the grand scale and their dialogue was insr of elaborate speeches, in rhymed 10-syllabled couplets, full of emotional and bombastic of such kind that its parallel would not be found. The heroes and heroines would show great nobility. This would create admiration for the audience. "Restoration comedy" is English comedy written and performed in the Restoration period from 1660 to 1710. Comedy of manners is used as a synonym of Restoration comedy. After public stage performances had been banned for 18 years by the Puritan regime, the re-opening of the theatres in 1660 signalled a renaissance of English drama. Sexually explicit language was encouraged by King Charles II (1660–1685) personally and by the rakish style of his court. Historian George Norman Clark argues: