



Gargantua and Pantagruel, Book I

By Francois Rabelais

CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. 280 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.6in. The Life of Gargantua and of Pantagruel (French: La vie de Gargantua et de Pantagruel) is a pentalogy of novels written in the 16th century by Francois Rabelais, which tells of the adventures of two giants, Gargantua. The text is written in an amusing, extravagant, and satirical vein, and features much crudity, scatological humor, and violence (lists of explicit or vulgar insults fill several chapters). The censors of the Collège de la Sorbonne stigmatized it as obscene, and in a social climate of increasing religious oppression in a lead up to the French Wars of Religion, it was treated with suspicion, and contemporaries avoided mentioning it. According to Rabelais, the philosophy of his giant Pantagruel, Pantagruelism, is rooted in a certain gaiety of mind pickled in the scorn of fortuitous things (French: une certaine gaieté desprit confite dans le mépris des choses fortuites). Rabelais had studied Ancient Greek and he applied it in inventing hundreds of new words in the text, some of which became part of the French language. Wordplay and risqué humor abound in his writing. The...

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