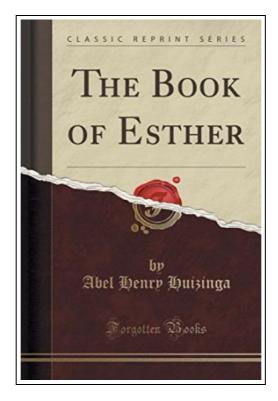
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Forgotten Books, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The Book of Esther The various literary and ethical and religious characteristics of the Book of Esther, and the history of opinions regarding it, in the Jewish and in the Christian church, give it, in some respects at least, a position quite unique, and accordingly invite our study. The story of the book is, brie?y, as follows: The Persian king, Ahasuerus, makes a magnificent feast, first for all his princes and nobles, and then for all the inhabitants of Susa. The king orders Vashti, the queen, to appear in public. She refuses, and is de posed from her position as queen. It being necessary to choose a new queen, fair young virgins are brought in from all parts of the empire, that from them the king may make his choice. The result is, that Esther, a beautiful Jewish maiden, the adopted daughter of Mordecai, is chosen. Mordecai subsequently reveals a conspiracy against the king, and thus saves the king s life. He refuses, moreover, to give the customary obeisance to Haman, the king s favorite. Haman, in revenge, plots to slay the whole Jewish race throughout the empire. Having been obliged by the command of the king to be an involuntary instrument in confer ring high honor upon Mordecai, his passion of revenge becomes still deeper. Esther, however, skilfully using her charms and power as the king s favorite, obtains what is virtually a complete reversal of the destructive decree. Haman is hanged upon the gallows which he had prepared for Mordecai. The Jews, under the encouragement of a royal decree, fall upon their enemies, and slay them. The festival of Purim is instituted to commemorate this glorious deliverance. About the...

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