



## The Child s Crusade (Classic Reprint)

By William Hale Beckford

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from The Child s Crusade Such the stirring appeal that rang through France and Western Europe in the early summer of 1212, year of grace. At Easter the swift vision had come to Stephen of Cloyes, a fourteen-year-old lad, as he tended his sheep on a hillside in the Loire valley. In the afternoon shadows there stood before him a dark pilgrim form, with garments dust-stained from a long journey. To the boy s eager thought the pilgrim drew a sad picture of the Christians in Palestine and the sepulchre in Moslem hands. Then he bade Stephen summon all the children to renew the crusade their fathers had foresworn. As, with his fiery message, Stephen sped through the land, tacit approval of both church and king was given the boy-prophet. He soon marshalled on the plain of Vendome an army of near forty thousand children, most of them between eight and fifteen. Then they marched down the Rhone valley, singing joyous psalms and with banners a gleam. Many of the tots fell by the way - to...



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