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Confessions of an English Opium-Eater (Wordsworth Classics)

By Thomas De Quincey

Wordsworth Editions Ltd, 1999. TRADE PAPERBACK. Condition: New. Wordsworth Press, Paperback, 1999, Book Condition: New, In the first part of this famous work, published in 1821 but then revised and expanded in 1856, De Quincey vividly describes a number of experiences during his boyhood which he implies laid the foundations for his later life of helpless drug addiction. The second part consists of his remarkable account of the pleasures and pains of opium, ostensibly offered as a muted apology for the course his life had taken but often reading like a celebration of it. The Confessions of an English Opium-Eater is thus both a classic of English autobiographical writing the prose equivalent, in its own time, of Wordsworths The Prelude or Growth of a Poets Mind and at the same time a crucial text in the long history of the Western Worlds ambivalent relationship with hard drugs. Full of psychological insight and colourful descriptive writing, it surprised and fascinated De Quinceys contemporaries and has continued to exert its powerful and eccentric appeal ever since. Book.

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